

## Moscow's joy at freedom for the Sakharovs

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet Union yesterday made a far-reaching gesture to try to improve its tarnished image in the field of human rights by announcing an end to the internal exile imposed nearly seven years ago on Dr Andrei Sakharov, the country's best known dissident.

The unexpected gesture, which had been repeatedly demanded by Western leaders, was announced as the dramatic finale to an otherwise routine press conference called by the Soviet Foreign Ministry, ostensibly to discuss the future of the moratorium on nuclear weapons testing.

Prompted by a question from an American television reporter, Mr Vladimir Petrovsky, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, stunned the 400 Western and Soviet newsmen by informing them that Dr Sakharov was free to return to Moscow from the closed city of Gorky and to resume his scientific career.

Mr Petrovsky, who was understood to have been acting on the specific orders of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, went on to announce that the President of the Supreme Soviet had also offered a pardon to Dr Sakharov's wife, Mrs Yelena Bonner, who was sentenced to five years' internal exile for anti-state activities in 1984.

The news spread quickly on the busy telegraph through Moscow's dissident community, where it was greeted with astonishment and delight. Close friends of Dr Sakharov said that the dissident physicist, aged 65, and his 62-year-old wife were not

because he was still in possession of state secrets.

This referred to Dr Sakharov's work as the inventor of the Soviet hydrogen bomb, which was developed in 1953. He is widely regarded for his scientific brain, but in recent years he has become a symbol of the fight for intellectual freedom inside the Soviet Union. Recent reports have said that his health is not good.

One of the key factors behind the Kremlin move, which was seen as a further demonstration of Mr Gorbachev's growing personal power, was a private letter sent to the Soviet leader earlier this year in which the dissident physicist offered to curtail his public activities in exchange for the relaxation of official measures against him.

The first sign of a thaw in the Kremlin's attitude towards the Sakharovs - who have been subjected to gross KGB harassment and surveillance during their lonely exile - came last December, when Mrs Bonner was permitted to go on a six-month trip to the West for medical treatment.

Soviet officials said that the timing of yesterday's announcement was also linked to the recent offer by the Kremlin to host an international human rights conference in Moscow for all nations participating in the European security and co-operation conference in Vienna.

WASHINGTON: The White House yesterday said it was pleased to hear of the release of Dr Sakharov from internal exile but noted that the system of abuses of human rights in the Soviet Union continued (Mohsin Ali writes).

## Iran deal prosecutor appointed

From Michael Binyon, Washington

A special three-judge court yesterday named a 74-year-old former judge and diplomat as the independent prosecutor to conduct a criminal investigation of the Iran arms affair.

Judge Lawrence Walsh, a prominent attorney who was the deputy US negotiator at the Vietnam peace talks in Paris, is formally known as an independent counsel.

Like the special Watergate prosecutors, Mr Archibald Cox and Mr Leon Jaworski, he has full power of prosecution. He can make criminal indictments if he finds any laws were broken in the secret sale of arms to Iran and the diversion of some of the profits to the Nicaraguan Contras.

His investigation is likely to take up to a year.

Under strong pressure from Congress and public opinion, an initially reluctant President Reagan announced his request to a court to appoint an independent counsel early this month.

"Judge Walsh is one of the outstanding lawyers of the nation and brings to this very broad investigation into whether there has been a violation of any federal criminal law by any person in the Iran-Contra affair the judgement and ability acquired through years of experience as a prosecutor, federal judge, government official, trial lawyer and as a recognized leader of the bar of the nation," the court said.

Meese evidence, page 5

## Whitehall inquiry to end soon

By Colin Narborough

The investigation into the possible abuse of privileged, market-moving information by civil servants could be completed quickly. The Government is believed to have a good idea of where the sources of leaks are to be found.

The Stock Exchange's ability to monitor electronically suspicious share price movements is understood to have played a key part in the decision by Mr Paul Channon, the Trade and Industry Secretary, to investigate the very officials responsible for fair competition in business.

His decision to appoint outside inspectors to follow up allegations by officials at the DTI, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the Office of Fair Trading, followed the state of insider dealings on both sides of the Atlantic.

They are expected to focus on the DTI's divisions dealing with competition policy and mergers, and on the OFT mergers secretariat.

DTI officials refused to say how many civil servants would be involved. Information was available to a broad cross-section of the DTI's 13,000 staff, from junior clerical workers upwards.

Spokesmen for the departments whose officials are under investigation said they were unaware of any suspensions or dismissals linked with the investigation.

Leading article, page 17

## Greeks and Turks in border clash

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A Greek soldier, aged 19, was reported killed and another injured yesterday in a shooting incident between Greek and Turkish Army border patrols along the River Evros, which marks the frontier between the two countries.

According to the Greek account, a patrol spotted five Turkish soldiers in Greek territory east of Ferai and ordered them to halt. The Turkish soldiers opened fire, killing one and injuring a second Greek soldier.

A Turkish report claimed the exchange took place in Turkish territory and resulted in the death of a Turkish lieutenant and a soldier.

## Chorus of anger at theatre grant cuts

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

The axe of threatened Arts Council cash cuts has fallen principally on the national theatre and opera companies, provoking a chorus of dismay and concern about their survival.

Under the council allocations announced yesterday, the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company will receive no increase in their grants next year - effectively a substantial cut in real terms.

The South Bank Board, which runs the London concert hall complex, was also given a "standstill" grant, while English National Opera received an increase well below inflation.

The Royal Opera House

## Ex-champion jockey freed on £1.2m sureties



Lester Piggott: Must report weekly to the police.

## Lester Piggott accused of false tax statement

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Lester Piggott, the former champion jockey, appeared yesterday before Newmarket magistrates accused of making a false tax statement about his bank accounts. He was remanded until March 19.

The magistrates had given one of Britain's legendary figures three hours to raise £200,000 in bail sureties and £1 million in cash to put before the court or face prison. He was unable to raise the cash but had his home and stables valued at a little short of the £1 million needed. The court accepted the deeds plus increased sureties.

At the end of two special court sessions last night, Mr Piggott was freed after two other famous racing figures had each pledged £125,000. They were Mr Henry Cecil, the leading trainer, and Mr Charles St George, the millionaire Newmarket race horse owner.

Mr Piggott and his wife signed over their home and stables worth £950,000 to the court.

It had taken five and a half hours for Mr Piggott, who spent much of the afternoon in the Newmarket police cells, to free himself.

Even after the court accepted the stables deeds they still insisted they should be signed over by Mrs Piggott as well as her husband.

After being freed, Mr Piggott said in a written statement: "I was very disappointed to be arrested today as, since 1 February 1986, my advisers and myself had spent thousands of hours getting together all the evidence that was sought by Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise with a view to settling my affairs. This evidence was made available to the

## Stalker decides to quit the force

By Ian Smith, Northern Correspondent

Mr John Stalker, the disillusioned Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, is quitting the force just three months after successfully clearing his professional and personal reputation.

He has formally applied to retire in March, at least eight years earlier than he had planned to leave the force. He is aged 47.

At his brother's wedding in London yesterday, Mr Stalker said: "I am not a broken man - it's simply that my family don't want me to be a policeman any more."

"I could have put my head down and ignored all the difficulties at work, still doing the job as a professional. But it was killing me to come home and see my wife Stella so upset. I have seen my mother turn from being a sprightly lady into an old woman."

Mr Stalker was removed as head of an inquiry into allegations that the Royal Ulster Constabulary was operating a shoot-to-kill policy, and had to clear himself of allegations that he had associated with known Manchester criminals.

He said yesterday: "I am not going to wash any dirty linen in public unless somebody else starts it. There is no way I am going out as a bitter man."

This was a carefully considered decision involving all my family. It is true to say that I did not intend to retire for at least another eight years, on consideration though I have reappraised my situation and decided to go after 30 years' service like most policemen do."

It is understood that Mr Stalker was bitterly upset that he was not informed in advance of the timing of Myra Hindley's return to Saddleworth moor on Tuesday, particularly as he was one of only three serving members in the Manchester force involved in the original investigation.

It is believed that his resignation was accepted by Chief Constable Mr James Anderson without any attempt made to change his mind.

Recently the emotional strain on Mr Stalker became so great that on doctor's orders he took two weeks off work and told how the sustained pressure of the inquiry had taken its toll on his entire family, including his wife Stella, aged 43, and their two daughters.

Mrs Stalker said that her husband had become a changed man who had lost weight and confidence in his future.

One of the most worrying burdens he has had to carry is the £21,000 legal fees incurred in the long struggle to clear his name.

Continued on Page 20, col 8

## Brent ghetto fear of Asian governor

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The school governor whose allegedly racist activities are now to be investigated by Brent council is an Asian who fears that the council's policies are turning his neighbourhood and his children's school into a "ghetto".

Mr Haleem Hasani says the council suspects him of having put pressure on Miss Maureen McGoldrick, the headteacher of Sudbury Infant School, not to employ any more black or Asian teachers.

On Thursday night the council decided, on legal advice, to drop its proceedings against Miss McGoldrick but said it would investigate the conduct of "certain governors and parents".

Mr Hasani said yesterday: "I understand they mean me. But I am ready for them. I do not feel guilty. I spoke the truth and I do not regret anything that I have said."

Mr Hasani estimates that about half the teachers at Sudbury are black or Asian, as are about 85 per cent of the children. "I have never objected to black teachers, what I complained about was really a managerial issue: there was a problem about how they were distributed."

"But then they gagged me. They tried to sweep the issue under the carpet. Nobody came forward to support me because they were afraid..."

Mr Hasani and his wife, who is white, have four children. Three are at Sudbury Junior School; the fourth is in the infants section. He has been a governor of one or other school - currently of Sudbury - for eight years.

He was first appointed, as a "community" governor, by Brent council. Now a parent governor, he is also chairman of the joint parent-teacher association.

"I spend most of my spare time there. I have done my best for the school and the children."

The "truth" that Mr Hasani refers to is his belief - and he chooses his words carefully - that children in an English school should not be taught exclusively by those whose mother-tongue is not English. "There must be a balance between English and non-English. But in the infants school my children had non-English teachers for three consecutive years. It's not right so I challenged it."

Mr Hasani estimates that about half the teachers at Sudbury are black or Asian, as are about 85 per cent of the children. "I have never objected to black teachers, what I complained about was really a managerial issue: there was a problem about how they were distributed."

"But then they gagged me. They tried to sweep the issue under the carpet. Nobody came forward to support me because they were afraid..."

Continued on page 20, col 4



Mr Hasani: fears school becoming ghetto.

## '£23m loss' warning

Washington - Shareholders in Guinness stand to lose about £23 million, a third of the £70 million the company invested in the partnership of Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced arbitrageur, according to Wall Street analysts (Bailey Morris writes).

The calculations, a new blow to the troubled Guinness company and to its chairman, Mr Ernest Saunders, came as a new storm of controversy

erupted yesterday over the United States Government's settlement with Mr Boesky.

Mr Boesky claims that Wall Street estimates of potential losses are too high.

US officials confirmed that Mr Boesky was allowed to remain with his company, Ivan F Boesky & Co LP, until April 1, 1988, a critically important date.

Boesky £70m, page 21

## New year inquiry on defence procurement

By Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent

A three-man inquiry team is to investigate the future management of all large-scale defence procurement projects in the wake of the Nimrod debacle, it was announced last night.

It will start work in the new year and is expected to produce a report for Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, and Sir Robin Ibbs, head of the Cabinet's Efficiency Unit, by the summer.

As the inquiry was announced, it was also disclosed that during the nine-year course of the Nimrod development, there were five major reviews of the project during

which serious consideration was given to scrapping it.

The inquiry team will consist of two senior MoD staff, one a scientist and the other an administrator, and a member of the Efficiency Unit.

It was emphasized last night that the need for an investigation had been taken some weeks ago and it would be into the management and monitoring of the Nimrod programme and not into the actual choice of aircraft to provide the UK's next generation of airborne early warning radar.

The team will also be looking at the handling of several

Continued on page 20, col 6

## Boxer in clear over drug test

By John Goodbody

Tim Witherspoon did not fail drug tests for marijuana before and after his World Boxing Association heavyweight title defeat on December 12 by James "Bonecrusher" Smith.

Mr Jose Torres, the chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission, said yesterday: "It was a clerical error. Somebody made a critical error in putting 'positive' when it should have been negative. I called Witherspoon at 1.30 am and apologized. He said he appreciated me calling him."

Mr Edward Grayson, author of *Sport and the Law*, said Witherspoon would be entitled to "almost record damages".

Clerical error, page 34

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## Monday

### Trouble in store



The High Street spending boom has been fuelled by ever-easier credit. But how easily do little store cards lead to big financial problems?

## Portfolio £28,000 to be won

There is £28,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition - £24,000 in the weekly competition as there has been no winner for the past two weeks, plus the daily prize of £4,000.

The £4,000 prize yesterday was won by Mrs Christine Catchpole, of Forest Row, East Sussex. Details, page 3.

Portfolio lists, pages 20 and 25.

## TIMES BUSINESS

### IMF task

M Michel Camdessus, the new managing director of the International Monetary Fund, faces a tough task in unifying the agency

Page 21

## TIMES SPORT

### No standing

FIFA, the governing body of world football, hopes to eliminate hooliganism from the 1994 World Cup by allowing seated spectators only

Page 34

### Sailor lost

Jacques de Roux, a Frenchman competing in the single-handed round-the-world race, is missing, feared drowned, after his yacht was found unmanned south of Sydney

Page 34

Home News	2-4	Law Report	29
Overseas	5-7	Leaders	17
Arts	18-23	Letters	17
Archaeology	19	Obituary	18
Books	8	Parliament	18
Births, deaths, marriages	19	Religion	18
Court	19	Sale Rooms	18
Business	21-25	Science	18
Chess	11	Services	18
Crosswords	12-20	Sport	26-34
Diary	16	Theatre, etc	15
Features	9-16	TV & Radio	33
		Universities	18
		Weather	20
		Wills	18

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## NEWS SUMMARY

## Single vote sees FitzGerald home

The Irish Republic's government last night won by a majority of one a crucial vote to adjourn the Dail at the end of a debate held in an electrifying atmosphere.

Two sick deputies brought to the chamber for the crucial vote were given an ovation by their parliamentary colleagues as they struggled through the division lobbies.

Mr Oliver Flanagan, a Fine Gael backbencher, looked pale and tired as he entered the Dail with the aid of a walking frame while opposition deputy David Andrews, who is recovering from a back operation, was in a wheelchair for the vote.

But Dr Garret FitzGerald was able to win the debate adjourning the Dail until January 28 when a backbencher who quit his party earlier in the month abstained on the adjournment motion. During the Christmas recess Fine Gael-Labour cabinet ministers will attempt to frame a budget which the Prime Minister has said will involve austerity measures including £2300 million spending cuts.

However many deputies believe the Government will be forced to go to the country before Easter.

## Dockers' Appeal is dismissed

More than 1,000 dockers in Liverpool voted yesterday at the Philharmonic Hall to accept a new two year pay deal which provides a basic wage increase of £8 and £115 bonus paid every six months.

Management have promised better working conditions and working practices to turn the loss-making cargo-handling into profit by attracting more work.

The chairman of the shop stewards committee, Mr Dennis Kelly, said the deal, reached after eight months, had saved the port.

## NUJ quits pay role

The National Union of Journalists has decided to withdraw from national pay bargaining with the Newspaper Society, which represents 261 provincial companies.

Branches will have to negotiate pay deals after a ballot of 8,000 members rejected a rise of between 25 and 26 a week and a "get-out clause", which said that newspapers in financial difficulty would not be bound by the agreement.

## Bomber guilty

A Birmingham Crown Court jury decided yesterday that James Hazell was the petrol bomber featured on the front pages of the national newspapers during the Handsworth riots in September last year.

Hazell will be sentenced on Monday. He had been pictured carrying a petrol bomb shortly before throwing it into a building supplies shop.

Hazell, aged 32, of Merryhill Drive, Winslow Green, had denied the arson charge. He said he was not the man in the photograph.



## Beloff takes charge of Tory students

By Nicholas Wood  
Political Reporter

Lord Beloff, the political historian and founder of Britain's only private university, is one of a quartet of right-wing academics appointed to form the core of the body replacing the recently disbanded Federation of Conservative Students.

Lord Beloff, aged 73, who holds several senior party posts, will be joined by Dr John Marks, until recently a senior lecturer at the North London Polytechnic and one

of the Black Paper authors, Professor John Honey, of Leicester University, and Professor David Dilks, of Leeds University, on the Conservative Collegiate Forum.

The forum, to be chaired by Mr Peter Morrison, deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, will also include 12 students leaders representing all parts of the country, and Mr John Bercow, the former FCS chairman.

Yesterday, Lord Beloff, Professor Emeritus at Oxford University and first principal

of Buckingham University, who tried to act as a peace-maker in the confrontation between the FCS radicals and party hierarchy, said he saw himself as a "grandfather" figure building bridges across the generation gap.

The forum's main task, he thought, was to recapture the academic high ground for Conservative ideas, a position lost since 1979 under the impact of financial stringency, retirements and defections to the SDP.

"We need a new network among dons, lecturers and so

forth and to act as sounding board for party policy. The students have remained numerically very effective and active, but because the central leadership fell into the hands of extremists, there was chaos.

"The thing is to rebuild proper lines of communication between the party at the centre and local branches."

After the "outrageous" slur against Lord Stockton in an FCS magazine, it was "inevitable" that the body be disbanded, he said.

Mr Bercow said that in addition to the academics, the

forum would include the "best" of the former FCS branch chairmen to "emphasize the broad-based character of Conservatism".

It would concentrate on campaigning on the campuses, policy formation, especially in the areas of further and higher education, and extending Tory influence within the academic circles.

"We shall not be distracted by personal bickering and the pursuit of fetishes", a clear reference to the factional infighting that dogged the FCS.

## Dons' threat of disruptive action over pay dispute

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

Disrupted lectures and the withholding of examination marks in Britain's 46 universities could affect students in higher education after a vote yesterday by the Association of University Teachers to begin a programme of industrial action in the new year.

Members of the association's national council decided on the move at a meeting in Birmingham after an inconclusive meeting earlier in the week with Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education.

Much now depends on a further meeting with Mr Baker scheduled for mid-January. If the association comes away empty-handed its members will be balloted on strike action at the end of the month, which, if approved, would begin to affect campuses in early February.

Yesterday, the second largest teaching union also gave a resounding "no" to the rival pay and conditions deals proposed by the local education authorities and the Government.

In a low turnout of 41 per cent, members of the National Union of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers rejected by 41,994 votes to 5,178 the employers' package agreed at the conciliation service, Acas, and rebuffed Mr Baker by rejecting his proposed settlement by an even bigger margin of 44,691 to 2,403.

The university lecturers are demanding a phased pay deal

of 25 per cent over two years. University dons have already consented in principle to a system of staff appraisal and other reforms demanded by the Government, and are frustrated with Mr Baker, who, they believe, is dragging his heels on a pay settlement which has been delayed.

A request for an interim pay rise of 6 per cent, pending a final settlement, was rejected last week by vice-chancellors.

The general secretary of the association, Miss Diana Warwick, said after yesterday's meeting: "As Mr Baker has not responded to our recent negotiations, members believe that he will be moved only by disruptive industrial action and that is the path they feel they must now follow."

The three academic advisers to Ruskin College, Oxford, have presented Mr George Walden, Under Secretary of State for Education, with a formula on academic freedom designed to avoid a repetition of the dispute involving the former politics lecturer, Mr David Selbourne.

Mr Walden said yesterday that he would be studying the document "very closely", but reiterated the point he has made to the college previously that there could be no compromise on the issue of freedom for academics.

Students boycotted Mr Selbourne's lectures after he wrote an article for *The Times* in March. He is suing Ruskin for constructive dismissal and defamation.



Sir Peter Hall, artistic director of the National Theatre, calling for a public outcry against cuts in government spending on the arts yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

## Hall sees political battle on arts cash

Sir Peter Hall emerged last night as the most outspoken critic of the Government's arts funding policy after hearing the allocation of cash for next year.

At a briefing in his National Theatre office, he said: "I don't think the Government would mind if one of the national companies closed. My view is that they want to see the theatres closed, or diminished, or privatized."

"Our only defence is in the political arena, to prove to the Government that there are votes in the arts just as there are in education, and if you muck up our heritage, ruin our traditions, and wreck our tourist industry, people will mind."

He repeated his call for a national protest campaign, saying: "The Arts Council can't get the money, the Government won't give the money, so it's up to the audiences to say why are you doing this?"

"We spend millions of pounds a year in our education system teaching children how to appreciate Shakespeare, and now it's almost impossible for a child to see a Shakespeare production in a regional theatre because they can't afford to put them on, which seems to me rather potty."

For a relatively small sum of money, between £20 million and £25 million, the Government could transform the arts and thereby support one of the biggest success stories in Britain since the war, which brought the country enormous international prestige and did not cost it a penny.

## £27m extra on publicity bill

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

A senior Commons select committee is to convene a special meeting on the first working day after the Christmas break to discover why the department that publicizes the Government's work has been authorized to spend an extra £27 million on top of its £70 million annual budget.

The 35 per cent increase to the Central Office of Information's 1986/87 cash limit slipped through without debate when the Commons approved a series of winter supplementary estimates last Monday.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, a Conservative member

of the Treasury and Civil Service Committee, said it was "an awful lot of money with an awfully little amount of explanation".

He said: "We don't yet know what it's about but we will and we should. What we are saying is that you should not expect to get through £27 million extra 'on the hoof'."

The Treasury committee is there to make sure the House doesn't overlook these things."

Mr Neville Taylor, Director-General of the Central Office of Information, will appear on January 12 to be asked why, for example, the

Department of Employment is to spend an extra £7.1 million to publicize its activities, and why the Manpower Services Commission is to spend an extra £9.6 million.

Other departments with upgraded demands include the Department of Health and Social Security, which will get an extra £4.2 million; Ministry of Defence (£2.4 million) and Department of Energy (£1.8 million).

The Central Office of Information said yesterday that its job was to provide a full publicity service for government departments.

The fall of Nimrod

## GEC fears damage by break-up of its team

By Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent

GEC Avionics, the company that lost the £900 million airborne radar contract to Boeing, now fears a damaging loss of its best technicians employed on the Nimrod project.

The group of 1,500 electronics specialists which developed the Nimrod early warning system is one of the most advanced technology teams in the world.

Competitors of GEC in Britain, Europe and America are likely to place a high value on their skills. They include radar technicians, signal processing technicians and software specialists who were able to produce what one GEC scientist described as a unique blend of expertise.

"They have that especially British approach to solving problems, the Barnes Wallis back of an envelope solution rather than throwing moun-

## RAF is left with costly but useless aircraft

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The Royal Air Force was last night trying to decide what to do with the 11 odd-shaped aircraft with which it had planned to mount a constant patrol of British airspace.

The 11 Nimrod AEW Mark 3s were converted at a cost of more than £200 million by British Aerospace at Woodford near Manchester, ready to house the radar which, in the end, did not work.

But with their huge bulbous noses and rear they are now completely useless in their present shape. The probability is that they will once again have to go back to Woodford and be re-converted either into flying fuel tankers, maritime patrol aircraft or replacements for the Canberra electronic warfare training aircraft.

Whatever is decided, the Ministry of Defence will have to spend several hundred mil-

## TV staff vote to strike over pay

By Tim Jones

Live programmes on BBC television will be seriously disrupted in the new year after a ballot decision yesterday by 600 electricians to withdraw their labour from midnight on January 3.

The electricians, who are responsible for lighting, voted by a 3-1 majority for industrial action which they hope will resolve a pay and differentials argument which has been simmering for three years.

At one stage the men, members of the Electrical, Electronic Telecommunication and Plumbing Union had threatened to begin their industrial action before Christmas.

But after their shop stewards had met yesterday they decided that such a move would lose them public sympathy. A statement issued by the union said: "The EETPU have been anxious to avoid any action which would affect the viewing public during Christmas and the new year."

The statement recognized that television, during the holiday period, is especially important to elderly and sick people.

The union blamed the Corporation for the breakdown of talks. Mr Harry Hughes, a union executive member, said: "Our argument is with the management and not with the general public and we are doing our best to minimize the effect on the viewers."

When the same argument was raised last year, the union voted overwhelmingly to take industrial action, but then agreed to return to the negotiating table.

One reason for the dispute is that differentials were eroded three years ago when scene shifters received a 20 per cent pay rise.

But the union also claims that the basic pay of £8,000 at the BBC is much less than for electricians in other parts of the industry. At ITV, the union says, their members receive £2 an hour more for doing the same job.

EETPU members employed by lighting contractors have said they will refuse to undertake any extra work and other unions have also said they will not undertake any extra duties.

Live shows, sport and new programmes will be particularly affected by the dispute.

## Ruling on plastic bullets

Northumbria Police Authority yesterday failed in its High Court challenge to the power of the Home Secretary to supply Chief Constables with plastic bullets and CS gas without the prior consent of local police authorities.

Two judges ruled in a test case that the Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, had a prerogative to supply such equipment.

Mr Justice Mann, sitting with Lord Justice Watkins, said: "The decision whether or not to use the equipment supplied by the Secretary of State is for the chief constable alone to make". He said the court's judgement related to supply, not to use, which was the responsibility of chief constables.

Northumbria Police Authority had sought a declaration that the Home Secretary had no legal power to issue plastic baton rounds or CS gas to chief constables without the consent of the local police authority, "save in a situation of grave emergency".

The authority, backed by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, launched its High Court challenge following the issue of Home Office Circular 40 in May this year, which proposed setting up a central store of plastic bullets, CS gas and other equipment from which any police force could withdraw items on obtaining the approval of HM Inspector of Constabulary.

Mr Justice Mann said the availability to a chief constable of "suitable equipment" ought not to depend on judicial review, as the authority had argued, unless there was a compelling reason.

It had been argued by Mr Desmond Keene, QC, for the Labour and authority, that the Home Secretary's prerogative had been removed by the introduction of the 1964 Police Act.

## Correction

Mr Russell Proffitt was not short-listed for the vacant post of Director of Education of the London borough of Brent as implied in our report, "Baker ordered Brent to drop 'racism' case", on December 13.

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# Two Sikhs found guilty of plotting to murder Gandhi

The Sikh ringleader and an accomplice in a plot to assassinate Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, during his official visit to Britain 13 months ago, were found guilty at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday of conspiracy to murder.

Jarnail Singh Ranuana, aged 46, the former owner of a cash and carry store, who led the conspiracy, and Sukvinder Singh Gill, aged 30, a dyer, both of Leicester, will be sentenced today.

They were convicted of conspiring to murder Mr Gandhi and soliciting two undercover policemen to kill the Indian prime minister. Ranuana was also convicted of possessing a .38 Smith and Wesson revolver and supplying heroin.

The jury deliberated for 18 hours and spent two nights in an hotel before unanimously

## Police help informer to hide

The underworld informer who tipped off British Sikhs to assassinate Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, has gone into hiding, with police help.

Police said that the informer's life had been threatened after he warned them that militant Sikhs planned to murder Mr Gandhi during his official visit to England in October 1985.

The tip-off led to the arrest of several Sikhs in Leicester, including the "ringleader", Jarnail Singh Ranuana, aged 46, who was found to be an elaborate police undercover operation.

He was said to have received inside information from the Indian High Commission in London about Mr Gandhi's itinerary, including meetings with the Prime Minister and the Prince of Wales. But, the two "IRA gunmen", Ranuana tried to hire for £60,000 to carry out the assassination were undercover policemen.

In the trial at Birmingham Crown Court, the defence accused the policemen of acting as *agent provocateurs* to encourage a crime that otherwise would not have been

## Drug may fight side effects

A drug is being developed which could transform treatments for mental disorders such as schizophrenia and anxiety and prove effective against the side effects of nausea and vomiting linked with cancer treatment.

First details of the drug, developed by Glaxo under the code name, GR38032F, were reported yesterday at the British Pharmacological Society meeting in London.

The company emphasizes that the compound is at a very early stage of development, but says it may prove a milestone in the treatment of diseases of the central nervous system.

Present treatments for anxiety, including drugs such as Valium, often have marked side-effects including sedation and addiction.

With schizophrenia, drugs often provoke a Parkinson's reaction, with severe shakiness and unco-ordinated movements.

Anti-cancer drugs, particularly cisplatin cause distressing nausea and vomiting.

The new compound, which is based on a synthetic compound of "unique molecular structure" is the result of 10 years of research.

Tests on animals started in 1983 and the company has started clinical trials on humans, but it will take several years before it is known whether the achievements indicated by the animal research can be realized in humans.

Glaxo researchers claim that they have discovered for the first time a sub-type of 5-hydroxytryptamine receptors. The new compound blocks these receptors and one result is a fine tuning of other major neurotransmitter systems that affect physiological functions.

Animal studies have shown that GR38032F can control overactivity in the brain system, thought to be responsible for symptoms of schizophrenia.

## Signs of success in war on heroin

The United Kingdom is on course to turn back the heroin tide, according to Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office.

Addict notifications have shown a smaller increase and customs and excise provisional figures for 1986 to be released next month, will indicate heroin seizures have been significantly lower than in 1985.

The purity of heroin seized when entering the country has fallen, while street prices show a slight rise.

"Taken together," Mr Mellor said, "these separate indicators may well mean some reduction in the availability of heroin here. At the same time some treatment agencies are beginning to report a levelling off in heroin referrals."

During the first year of the Government's anti-heroin advertising, independent evaluation has found that the proportion of young people who said they would reject an offer of heroin has risen from 83 per cent to 94 per cent.

"None of this means we can afford to be complacent," Mr Mellor said. He was commenting on figures for notified addicts in the UK in 1985, published yesterday. They meant that while the fight against heroin was far from

## Police to visit mother of girl found strangled

Murder squad detectives investigating the strangulation of a girl aged seven are expected to interview her mother at Skegness, Lincolnshire, today in an attempt to find a motive for the killing.

Nicola Spencer was found dead at a flat in Grosvenor Road, Skegness, by a male friend of her mother, Christine, who was out drinking.

A post mortem examination yesterday by Home Office pathologist Professor Alan

## Happier 'holy hour' for Ireland's drinkers

Theologians have long taken account of the possibility that the Irish, for all their piety, misunderstood the parable of the repentant publican.

The licensees of Dublin, it must be admitted, have for the past 60 years been religious in their observance of the "holy hour", the time of rest between three and four o'clock in the afternoon when they have retired behind their shutters



Jolly marking 30 years' tea parties yesterday with champagne (Photograph: Chris Harris).

## Chimps go for bubbly at party

Jolly, an expert tea-drinker, discarded her cup for champagne yesterday to celebrate 30 years of chimpanzee television commercials.

The one-hundredth television advertisement for Brooke Bond, in what is thought to be Britain's longest-running campaign, is to be shown on Boxing Day.

The PG Tips chimpanzees have been appearing on television since 1956, acting as yachtsmen, removal men, Tour de France cyclists, and even as James Bond, the spy fiction character, introducing himself with the words: "My name is Bond... Brooke Bond."

The chimps' champagne party, held at the London Weekend Television studios, included five former voices from the series: Peter Jones, Kenneth Connor, Robin Bailey, John Junkin and Cass Allen.

Robin Bailey said yesterday: "I find it a great privilege to work with chimps: they are so full of life and character." His voice is used in one of the newest advertisements, showing a chimpanzee as a retired bank manager.

John Junkin, whose voice is heard in a number of the advertisements, served the champagne to Jolly, and said: "She certainly seems to like it."

Miss Molly Badham, director of Twycroft Zoo, Jolly's home in Leicestershire, said: "Our chimps really do adore tea, but they drink it in buckets, not in cups."

Twycroft used to provide all the PG Tips chimpanzees, but yesterday Mr Tony Toller, a scriptwriter, said that the latest series of advertisements was filmed in Italy using Italian chimpanzees.

## Loft cash will be restricted to the needy

The Government yesterday announced a widespread cut-back in its roof insulation scheme (Our Property Correspondent writes).

Mr John Patten, Housing Minister, said in a written Commons reply that legislation on insulation grants would restrict them to people on benefit and end the present general 66 per cent grant.

Mr Patten announced, however, that a further £1.5 million was being made available this financial year for English councils which have already used up their allocations.

He said that almost 90 per cent of the accessible roofs in England were now insulated,

## Triple swap woman 'stable'

Mrs Davina Thompson, the world's first triple transplant patient, showed signs of regaining consciousness yesterday, two days after the operation in which she was given a new heart, lungs and liver.

She is said to be in a "satisfactory and stable" condition, still at Papworth Hospital, Cambridgeshire, where the operation was performed.

"She is not fully conscious but she is regaining consciousness," a spokesman for East Anglia Regional Health Authority said yesterday.

"Her husband has been into see her again today and her mother and father-in-law have waved to her through the glass door of her room in the intensive care unit."

Mrs Thompson's daughter, Stephanie, aged nine, who arrived at the hospital on Thursday, has still not been allowed to visit her mother because there is a greater risk of infection from children.

It could be a few days before Mrs Thompson fully regains consciousness.

All non-urgent operations were cancelled yesterday at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, where a dangerous bacteria, resistant to antibiotics, has infected four patients in the intensive care unit.

The bacteria known as MSRA - or Methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus - is a wound infection which affects patients who have undergone severe surgical procedures. "It could delay their recovery and can be quite dangerous if it is not treated properly as the patients are very weak," the hospital unit's general manager, Mr David Astley, said.

A man aged 22, and his mother, are recovering in Cardiff Royal Infirmary after he was given one of his kidneys in a three-hour operation yesterday.

Mrs Joyce Riddell said she could not stand watching her son, Mr Jeff Jones, suffering any longer from his kidney disease.

## Search of moors is abandoned for winter

Bad weather has forced police to call off their operation on Saddleworth Moor in Greater Manchester, where they have been searching for the bodies of further victims of the moors murderers. Myra Hindley and Ian Brady, for the past four weeks.

As blizzards swept the search area, yesterday, the man leading the hunt for the bodies of two missing children, Det Chief Supt Peter Topping, said that when they returned, in the spring, they would start digging at places pointed out by Myra Hindley who had been allowed out of jail recently to assist the search.

The decision to call off the operation came as the key witness in the trial of Hindley and Brady, more than 20 years ago, was brought back to Saddleworth Moor to help police in the search.

Hindley's former brother-in-law, Mr David Smith, aged 38, who called police in after watching Edward Evans, aged 17, being axed to death by Brady, was driven over the moor, in an unmarked police car, after spending half an hour talking to Mr Topping in the search incident room.

Mr Topping said: "His visit has been useful. Just exactly what he has done I am not prepared to discuss."

Mr Smith, who often accompanied the pair on to the moor above Oldham as a teenager, was driven slowly past Hollin Brown Knoll, near where the bodies of Leslie Ann Downey, aged 10, and John Kilbridge, aged 12, were found in shallow graves.

The area is believed to have been the second identified by Hindley during her visit from Cookham Wood Prison on Tuesday, when she spent seven hours on the moor.

## Portfolio Gold - Solace for parking ticket

A teacher of English was the sole winner of yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000.

Mrs Christine Catchpole, aged 41, from Forest Row in East Sussex, has played the Portfolio Gold game for the past 10 months.

"It is quite unbelievable," she said. "At first everything conspired against me. The newspaper did not deliver *The Times* this morning, so I had to look for another copy while on a shopping trip in Eastbourne."

"But before I had time to check my numbers, I received a £14 traffic ticket. So I still can't believe I have won," she said.

When asked how she intended spending the prize money, Mrs Catchpole said: "Apart from paying the parking fine, I'll now be able to buy all the Christmas presents I had dreamed about."

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

## Jasmine case social worker wins damages

The social worker who lost her job for "gross misconduct" in the Jasmine Beckford case was unfairly dismissed by Brent council, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

But Mrs Diane Dietmann will not be reinstated by Brent Social Services, because she did not immediately challenge her dismissal.

Mr Justice Hodgson ruled that she had thereby accepted it. He awarded her damages for wrongful dismissal which will amount to 16 weeks' wages.

The judge said that Mrs Dietmann, of Tudor Well Close, Stanmore, north-west London, was "deeply shocked" when she was dismissed in December last year after an inquiry report which accused her of gross negligence.

He said that while gross negligence may be the same as gross misconduct in law, he could not say the same for her contract, which allowed dismissal only for gross misconduct.

Brent council is considering an appeal.

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- A free shore excursion
- Special trouble-free check-in
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- A duty-free bottle of spirit for each adult.

What's more, even if you've already taken a cruise aboard another ship and this is your first QE2 cruise you still qualify for our special Newcomers package.

have been specially designed for first-time QE2 passengers. And what makes them even better news is the fantastic package of extras we've included - just for you.

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- July 20, Visiting Lisbon, Praia da Rocha, and Gibraltar. 6 days from £1,495.
- September 20, Visiting Madeira and Tenerife. 7 days from £1,495.

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## QE2 NEWCOMERS CRUISES

1987



# Two devised blind spot for computer fraud pack

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

An anonymous tip-off two years ago led customs investigators to two men who yesterday received suspended sentences for the first computerized VAT fraud to be detected in the EEC.

But for that information the secret ingredient in an otherwise innocent stock-taking and accounting software system called Movieman might have cost the Treasury millions.

Raymond Atkinson, aged 38, a certified accountant, of Deacons Bank, Westinghouse, Derbyshire, and Geoffrey Allsop, aged 36, a systems analyst, of Manor View, Westinghouse, both admitted conspiracy to incite the commission of false accounting.

They were each given nine months' jail sentences suspended for two years and each fined £1,000.

Judge Davidson told them at Derby Crown Court: "I am bound to treat fraud of this kind as a very serious matter."

"It is very easy to see in this age of potential electronic fraud that devices could be placed into future programmes that could result in very substantial losses to the public purse and enrich those involved."

The two were convicted for developing a secret "patch" within the system which allowed a customer to hide part of what he earned each day so that VAT inspectors, auditors and the Inland Revenue were given a false impression of earnings.

When customs investigators working on the investigation, codenamed Operation Patchwork, moved in last year, only 12 retailers were using the secret system, defrauding about £100,000, but the potential for greater damage existed.

Investigators believe that Movieman is an augury of future fraud. Mr Michael Newsom, a senior customs officer, said: "We think this case is typical of the type of fraud we will be facing in the computer age."

"In the past fraudsters used a little black book to record their fraudulent dealings. Today the computer can be used."

The case, he said, had

opened up a new area and "brings us with a jolt into the computer fraud age."

Movieman was born in the offices of a small computer firm called Micro-computer Services, based at Alfreton, Derbyshire.

Williams, an accountant, ran the sales side of the business while Allsop was involved in computer techniques. A graduate, he was trained in computers by British Rail at Derby before moving into his own work.

The two men put together a software package aimed at video recording hire shops. The package, priced at about £5,000, gave shops a system which kept stock records, monitored the hire of films and noted accounts. The retailer could tell which were his most successful films and who were his best customers.

Many of the 120 firms who bought the package were not told about the extra facility that lay within the package. The computer firm's salesmen - given immunity against prosecution by the crown - were told to bring the secret feature into play if they had a susceptible customer or a sale might be lost.

The suppression feature came into play when a user was consulting the computer menu for reporting sales. Using one password the user would be given a true record of the day's sales. A second password brought the suppression factor into play.

Customs investigators were alerted in November 1984. The tip came from someone who had heard the packages being offered. Routine VAT inspections were mounted on retailers using the package and investigators took one of the packages for examination by a special computer audit unit.

It took them two weeks to break through the code which kept fraudulent information locked away.

In February last year 80 customs officers and computer experts carried out a series of raids on video hire shops and the computer firm. Nine companies using the fraudulent system were dealt with by customs commissioners without going to court. They were fined a total of £34,487.

## Ex-MI5 chief wins damages for book libel

Mr Charles Simkins, a former deputy director general of MI5, won libel damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations that he leaked secrets to Nigel West, the author.

The allegations were made by another author, Philip Knightley, in his book on spying, *The Second Oldest Profession*.

Mr Desmond Browne, for Mr Simkins, told Mr Justice Drake that he was asked after he retired to prepare a history of security during the last war for the Cabinet. Mr Knightley suggested that he was bitter about it not being published generally and had got together with Mr West, and leaked a copy of his manuscript. That was untrue, the court was told. Mr Simkins had not met Mr West and had not given him any first hand knowledge of MI5's activities. Mr Knightley and his publishers acknowledged the allegations were mistaken and agreed to apologize and pay undisclosed damages and legal costs.

## Ex-Beatle in court victory over £260,000

The former Beatle, Ringo Starr, won a court battle yesterday which will save him paying almost £260,000 extra maintenance to his former wife, Maureen, from whom he was divorced in 1975.

The Court of Appeal in London overruled a High Court order, made in July, back-dating an increase in the musician's annual maintenance payments to April 1979.

Lords Justices Purchas, Neill and Balcombe held that £70,000 a year - £1,346 a week - was not an unreasonable figure to expect. The musician had "behaved with outstanding generosity and patience towards his wife."

However, they ruled that the increase - £26,000 higher than the annual £44,000 he had been paying since 1981 and £47,000 higher than his original maintenance order of £23,000 - should be back-dated only to April this year.

The decision means that he faces back payment of about £19,500.



Phil Mordin, a stonecarver from Guildford, Surrey, surrounded by grinning gargoyles in the English Heritage workshop at Vauxhall, south London, where 18 of the medieval carved figures, each with individual features, are being produced by the Property Services Agency for the Edward III tower at Windsor Castle, to replace the badly weathered originals (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

## Two freed on drugs charges

Two men accused of being drug suppliers walked free from court yesterday after allegations of corruption were made against a senior Scotland Yard detective.

Michael West and James O'Loughlin were arrested while allegedly trying to set up a cocaine deal to trap a drugs pusher. They claimed the operation was organized with undercover police to trap a cocaine dealer called "Diego" who was said to have disappeared after their arrest.

During the trial at Southwark Crown Court it was claimed that Mr West and Mr O'Loughlin were set up by Scotland Yard's senior operational detective, Det Supt Anthony Lundy.

Less than a month ago Det Supt Lundy was the subject of corruption allegations made during a television documentary. He is now being investigated by the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire about his relationship with a "supergrass" called Roy Garner.

Yesterday the jury took two hours to return unanimous not guilty verdicts on Mr West and Mr O'Loughlin who each denied possessing a total of 2.6 kilograms of cocaine, with intent to supply, on November 27 last year.

During the trial, defence counsel for Mr West, Mr Michael West, QC, claimed another "supergrass" controlled by Mr Lundy had first introduced the idea of the drug deal trap for "Diego".

Mr West and Mr O'Loughlin were to arrange a deal, with undercover police officers posing as buyers, to establish their credentials. The undercover detectives were wired with tape recorders and the deal was captured on video cameras.

Mr West's counsel told the jury that the video tapes and transcripts had been edited in an attempt to convict Mr West and Mr O'Loughlin.

Mr West, QC, told the court his client and Mr O'Loughlin, who were both on remand in Wormwood Scrubs Prison, were visited four times by an informer called Geoffrey Stack, who worked with Mr Lundy and proposed the trap.

Mr Lundy denied the allegation. He told the court: "I have never met Stack - and wouldn't know him if he walked in now."

Referring to the television documentary Mr West, QC, said: "The accusations in that programme involved your handling of informers. You have split the Metropolitan Police force straight down the middle, between those who believe in you and those who believe you are a thoroughly corrupt officer."

## Abortion advice Court rules against clinics

By Richard Ford

Two clinics offering advice to women seeking abortions in Britain are acting illegally, the High Court in Dublin ruled yesterday.

The first test case brought since a clause forbidding abortion was inserted into the constitution ended with two Dublin clinics being told to cease their counselling services from January 12 next year.

The ruling, by Mr Justice Hamilton, president of the High Court, is to be challenged, on appeal, in the Supreme Court by the clinics, who said that the decision was a "silly day in the history of Irish women."

In a 90-minute reserved judgement, the judge backed the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children who brought the case, arguing that the clinics were acting contrary to Irish law which, under section 40 of the written constitution, guarantees the right to life of the unborn.

Mr Justice Hamilton said he was satisfied that Open Door Counselling and the Well Woman Centre were flouting the constitution by giving information to pregnant women about abortion clinics operating in Britain.

The case was the first thorough testing of the constitutional amendment forbidding abortion, which was passed by a two to one majority in 1983.

Miss Ruth Riddick, of Open Line Counselling, said afterwards: "I believe the service we provide for Irish women is needed. There would not be a demand for it if it was not required. One of the problems about this judgement is that it sweeps a social problem under the carpet."

Yesterday's judgement came 24 hours after the European Court of Human Rights said the lack of provision for divorce and remarriage in the republic did not mean it was in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights. But the republic was found to be in breach of the convention because of the inferior legal status given to the children of unmarried parents.

The clinics, which see up to 1,000 pregnant women a year, denied counselling them to go abroad for abortions and said they were constitutionally entitled to give a non-directed counselling service.

The test case involved by-laws introduced by Mr Michael Heseltine, the former Secretary of State for Defence, to outlaw protests at Mildenhall and other military bases throughout the country.

Allowing an appeal by Ministry of Defence police, two judges ordered the magistrates to convict Mr John Bugg, aged 49, of entering a protected area in April "other than by way of an authorized entrance," contrary to the by-laws.

Mr Justice Mann said the magistrates decided in July that Mr Bugg, a former policeman, of St Paul's Road, Walton Highways, near Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, was not guilty of an offence because the prosecution had failed to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the by-laws were valid.

He said the correct approach was for by-laws to be presumed valid until a defendant showed that they were not.

The magistrates had wrongly accepted Mr Bugg's argument that the by-laws were invalid.

Mr Bugg, an individual rights campaigner, had gone on to the base in a deliberate attempt to prove that he had the right to do so.

## Ministry wins test case on trespass

Magistrates who held that Ministry of Defence by-laws aimed at preventing trespass on the United States Air Force base at Mildenhall, Suffolk, had no legal validity were overruled by the High Court yesterday.

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## Hospital's gain from extra fund

By Jill Sherman

Guy's Hospital, beset by financial difficulties for the past two years, is likely to be one of the first beneficiaries of the £30 million fund set up by the Government to help London regions.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced yesterday that he had approved a £55 million new building development at the south London teaching hospital and interim arrangements to provide services until it comes into operation in 1994.

The arrangements, which include a 12-bed observation unit and day surgery facilities, are expected to cost £300,000 and be paid for out of the special fund and open early next year.

These will provide vital transitional services so that the closure of another acute hospital in the district, New Cross, can go ahead in May. Lewisham and North Southwark Health Authority has planned to concentrate all acute beds on Guy's and Lewisham, dispensing with 338 beds at New Cross.

The new £35 million phase at Guy's will include 275 beds and 90 day places and include a range of supporting departments, teaching and research facilities.

Guy's unit general manager, Mr Nigel Smith, said yesterday that it would do little to resolve the district's financial difficulties, which were largely a result of treating more patients with the same number of beds.

Although allocations to regional health authorities have not been announced, South East Thames Regional Health Authority is confident that it will receive the £500,000 revenue needed to fund the interim services at Guy's and similar observation and day surgery units at neighbouring Lewisham hospital.

A statement from Lochaber council yesterday said: "Nothing can stop the ski development and the start of commercial activity next winter except Mr Rifkind, whose consent is now urgently required."

Mr David Blair, chief executive of Lochaber District Council, said yesterday that the Government seemed to wish the scheme to go ahead but had failed to conform to Treasury rules.

The latest evidence by independent consultants, requested by Mr Rifkind, should secure Scottish Office approval.

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## Verdict on Hell's Angel is quashed

The High Court yesterday quashed a coroner's verdict of unlawful killing on John Mikkleson, a Hell's Angel, and ordered a new inquest.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Mr Justice Roch in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, said that he reached his decision with "considerable reluctance".

Mikkleson, aged 34, from Windsor, Berkshire, died in police custody after being arrested after a fight at Bedford, Middlesex, in July last year.

He had been hit on the head with a police truncheon, put unconscious in a police van and left on the charge room floor at the police station before being taken to hospital. He died without regaining consciousness.

A jury reached the unlawful killing verdict after an inquest conducted by Dr John Burton, the west London coroner, in March this year.

Eight police officers challenged the verdict after a number of them were suspended from duty. They claimed that the coroner's directions to the jury were "wrong in law, inadequate and confusing".

Lord Justice Watkins agreed that the jury were "gravely misdirected" and could not have been otherwise than confused by what they were told. But he said he had "much sympathy with the coroner dealing with the case."

The judge ordered a fresh inquest before a different coroner and jury. He said: "I am in no doubt I would have directed the jury that it would be unsafe to find that the arresting officers mis-conducted themselves in a difficult situation, in any sense whatsoever."

He said it was unthinkable that the jury, who added a rider to their verdict that the killing was due to manslaughter as a result of the degree of care given to the man after he was overpowered, should find that a criminal offence had been committed without being satisfied beyond reasonable doubt.

He declared that the burden of proof necessary to reach such a verdict must be beyond reasonable doubt.

Blowing conch earns jail term for Bermudan

By Kenneth Gosling

Thomas Joe Benjamin's habit of blowing on a conch shell to call a meeting of his friends in Brixton market earned him a seven-day jail sentence yesterday.

Two High Court judges upheld the Inner London Crown Court's ruling that Benjamin must go to prison if he refused to consent to being bound over to the keep the peace.

Benjamin, a Bermudan-born community worker, decided that he had no intention of giving up the practice. For two years, up to November 17, 1984, he had been in the habit of going to the market and blowing his conch shell.

Although he was acquitted of an alleged assault on the police, said to have happened after his arrest, the judge at Inner London Crown Court jailed him for seven days for refusing to be bound over. The High Court judges offered him 48 hours to decide whether to promise to keep the peace, an offer he rejected.

Benjamin, who was in his fourth day of custody, was freed yesterday because the sentence amounts to five days with remission, and because the prison has no facilities to release prisoners this Saturday.

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## Judge retires

# Tough justice with a lenient streak

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Justice "Fred" Lawton, one of the last of the tough "no nonsense" school of judges feared by hardened criminals, retired yesterday.

More than 40 judges and barristers crowded his courtroom to pay tribute to the grammar school boy who rose to become a senior Court of Appeal judge after being appointed one of the youngest High Court judges at the age of 49.

It was the first time that the two divisions, criminal and civil, of the Court of Appeal had sat together and the occasion was marked by the presence, among many other judges, of the Master of the Rolls, the Lord Chief Justice and the Attorney General.

But the atmosphere yesterday was far from serious. Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, likened Lord Justice Lawton, aged 75, to a Labrador, to which the retiring judge responded that Labradors with dicky hips were usually put down.

The son of a prison governor - his father was a prison officer and the



Lord Justice Lawton, who retired yesterday

error of Wandsworth - he has often been labelled a "hanging judge". But his toughness against violent criminals has always been tempered by leniency and concern for lesser offenders.

Sending down Charles Richardson for 25 years in 1967, the then Mr Justice Lawton said the south London judge was "vicious, sadistic and a disgrace to society" for the way he

crossed his path. He added: "One is ashamed to live in a society that contains men like you."

He has also been well known for robust views on sentencing: in 1971 he called for a national labour corps in which offenders would undertake jobs such as clearing industrial debris. Again, in 1978, he recommended "short, sharp shocks" for young offenders, perhaps in disused Army camps, so they could learn that "bad behaviour results in unpleasant consequences". Nor has he much time for the theories of social workers and penal reformers or what he has called "cosy chats with probation officers".

"Clap-trap" was how he described a psychiatric report on a youth who tried to escape from the High Court in 1979. The youth had an appalling record and had to be dealt with severely, he said.

But the judge has an unexpected reformist streak, and has long ago discarded the political views that almost led him to stand as a Mosleyite candidate in the thirties. He favours non-custodial

penalties where possible. Under his chairmanship, the Criminal Law Revision Committee called for radical reforms, many now in force, to the law on sexual offences. These included a measure against kerb crawling, proposals to deal with those living off organized prostitution, to extend the law of rape to separated husbands and wives and to increase penalties for attempted rape and indecent assault.

Lord Justice Lawton, a large man with thickset features and a measured style of delivery well suited to anecdotes, of which he is fond, did not, like most other judges, go to public school. He went to Battersea Grammar School before going on to Cambridge University. He was called to the Bar in 1935, served in the war with the London Irish Rifles until he was invalided out in 1941, resumed his career and took silk in 1957. He was promoted to the Court of Appeal in 1972.

The judge is likely to be in great demand helping out as retired judges do on civil and criminal appeals, where he will be sitting as Sir Fred Lawton.

## December 19 1986 PARLIAMENT

# Indian minister's bribe hint

Mr Terence Dicks (Hayes and Harlington, C) said he had been asked for a bribe by the Indian Home Affairs Minister, Mr Buta Singh, when he visited India to try to help a constituent, Mrs Kuldip Kanu, who, he said, had been imprisoned on trumped-up charges.

He had been made to feel as if he had asked for an audience with the Lord and the Minister's opening words to him were: "Have you something for me?" He had pretended not to know what the minister was talking about and the interview effectively ended then. The Minister had promised to look into the case, about which he claimed to know nothing, and to contact Mr Dicks. He had not done so.

Mrs Kanu's husband, Professor Paul Bedi, was the first Sikh to be elected chairman of the Anglo-Asian Conservative Society in Britain (which was dissolved today). There had been anger among those he defeated in that election. It had been alleged that the man who had manipulated that society for many years had contacts in India and it was not surprising that Mrs Kanu was being put under pressure in India just after the election of her husband, in order to get him to resign.

He believed that both the Indian government and the British Foreign Office wanted this issue to die quietly for the sake of Anglo-Indian relations.

The behaviour of the corrupt government in India had been nothing short of appalling. Perhaps Britain should stop giving aid to India.

Was the Foreign Office to act? The British Government should intervene at the top level.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said she greatly regretted some of the language Mr Dicks had seen fit to use when referring to the Indian government and the legal processes in that Commonwealth country.

She firmly rejected his suggestion that the British Government or the Foreign Office was unsympathetic to the welfare of British citizens abroad or of the hard-working Sikh community in Britain.

Mrs Kanu had been charged under India's anti-terrorism laws and her case, which had been handled in a manner which was fully in accordance with the legal procedures in India, must be heard by the Indian courts.

As a UK citizen, she had been given the normal consular assistance.

Publicity did not always pay in such cases. Often a low-key approach had resolved problems when public acrimony had

only aggravated the problem. These were sensitive matters and people should reflect very hard before making any intemperate statements.

The remarks Mr Dicks had made about aid to India were made out of a genuine concern for the thousands of poor and needy people.

Comments that he had made previously, and repeated today, about Indian ministers had caused grave offence. Such comments could not help the cause of his constituent or the thousands of moderate Sikhs in Britain.

Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had discussed Mrs Kanu's case very fully with the High Commission and he was satisfied that everything possible was being done to help her.

His attack on an Indian minister would make the authorities close ranks and could delay rather than expedite a decision in this case.

He had suggested that her detention and charge might in some way be bound up with the affairs of the Anglo-Asian Association. Mr Dicks should make his representations to the chairman of the Conservative Party and to the National Union, in whose area these decisions lay.

## Five projects for homeless

A scheme allowing local authorities extra resources and expertise to bring empty dwellings back into use for homeless families is to take effect outside London for the first time.

Mr Richard Tracey, Under Secretary of State for Environment, said, referring to the Estates Action Unit: "We have approved projects for five authorities at South Tyneside, York, Woodspire, Rushmore and Milton Keynes."

This involves extra resources of £14 million, with 130 dwellings being brought back into use for the homeless.

Prison officers are 'against fresh start'

If the Home Office tried to impose the conditions on prison officers outlined in its policy document *A Fresh Start* it would cause increasing bitterness and mass resignations from the service, Mr Thomas Cox (Totting, Lab) said. Prison officers believed it would lead to compulsory overtime.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State, Home Office, said the Prison Officers' Association had a vested interest in preserving existing working practices but prison governors must have the flexibility to make better use of resources, both staff and money.



WORLD SUMMARY

# Karachi rioters lynch policeman

Karachi (Reuters) — Rioters lynched a policeman and badly injured four other officers after setting fire to their car in a suburb of strife-torn Karachi early yesterday.

Some 3,000 people surrounded the vehicle at about 1.30 am, dragged the uniformed man out and beat him, dancing and clapping while their victims pleaded for mercy.

Hospital doctors said another body was brought in with stab wounds, taking the death toll on the sixth day of ethnic rioting in Pakistan's largest city to at least 181.

Police reported no untoward incidents in Karachi during religious services on the Muslim sabbath, as prayers were offered at hundreds of mosques for the riot victims.

# Falkland Consular fishing

The Falkland Islands Government Office has completed its international selection of fishermen to be allowed to fish around the islands. Polish and Spanish applicants are among the successful (Andrew McEwen writes).

The Office began sending out advice notices yesterday for the fishing season beginning in February. The licences stem from Britain's unilateral declaration of an interim fishing protection zone.

The Foreign Office announced yesterday that its consul in Lasaka had been granted access to visit a British detainee by Zambian authorities a week ago, allegedly for being a South African saboteur.

A spokesman described the Briton as "fit and well" and said it was hoped the consul would be able to visit him again next week. The man, whose name has not yet been released, was arrested with two other white men.

# Voyager over Kenya

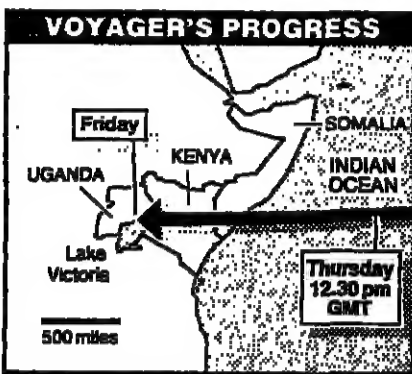
Nairobi (Reuters) — The experimental aircraft Voyager has passed safely over Kenya on the sixth day of its non-stop round the world flight, a pilot who sighted it yesterday.

The pilot, who asked not to be named, said he flew a tracker plane which located the Voyager near Isilo in central Kenya and followed it to the Ugandan border.

The two aircraft made radio contact and all appeared to be well on board the Voyager, he said.

The aircraft had been chartered in Nairobi by officials of the company that owns Voyager, Voyager Enterprises Inc., to locate the experimental plane and make contact with its two-man crew, the pilot said.

The twin-engine Voyager has already passed the half-way point on its 27,000 miles round the world flight that began in California.



# Bonn spy scandal Language barrier

Bonn — The West German Interior Ministry has named three Soviet diplomats and a member of the Czechoslovak Embassy as spies and asked the Foreign Ministry to declare them *persona non grata*, a Bonn paper said yesterday (John England writes).

The report, in *Die Welt*, said they had been engaged in spying in political, technological and military areas. The Interior Ministry refused to comment, but a source close to the ministry said it was expected to tell the three to leave without fuss as soon as possible.

# Rebels sink Nile boats

Nairobi — Rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army claim to have destroyed four river boats on the White Nile in two recent attacks on a government convoy returning from delivering relief supplies to the Upper Nile regional capital of Malakal (A Correspondent writes).

The attacks were made at the weekend, near Kodok.

# Roses clue in kidnap mystery

From Mac Margolis Rio de Janeiro

Brazilian police, with few leads and scanty evidence, are trying to solve a spectacular case of kidnapping which has already involved the authorities in Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina.

Even the FBI was called in to help solve the case of the vice-president of Brazil's largest bank, Senhor Antonio Beltrán Martínez, aged 58, who was seized early last month.

He reappeared about 20 miles outside São Paulo on Wednesday, after his son delivered two suitcases packed with \$4 million.

His family was told of his abduction in a typewritten note attached to a bouquet of 30 white roses.

Police said a woman wearing a blonde wig and green contact lenses had ordered the roses from a São Paulo florist.

The kidnappers repeatedly telephoned and wrote to the family, telling them not to cooperate with the police.

Senhor Josecy Cuoco, an agent of the Brazilian anti-kidnap group, Gas, said he feared that this case could now spawn "an industry of kidnappings" in São Paulo.

# Colombo swaps its prisoners

From Vijitha Yapa Colombo

In a big reversal of policy, the Sri Lankan Government yesterday swapped two suspected guerrillas for two of its soldiers.

The two guerrilla suspects — Gamini Ananthapane and Kunjia Alias Kumar — were flown in an Air Force plane to the northern capital of Jaffna, a stronghold of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, while the two army men — Lieutenant Aji Chandrasiri and gunner Keerthi Bandara — turned up at Colombo domestic airport in civilian clothes.

Gunner Bandara had a foot injury from a bullet wound he received on October 13, the day of his capture.

The soldiers were captured by the Tigers at Adampan, near the north-western town of Mannar, when the Army was on a major combing-out operation of suspected guerrilla hideouts.

The Sri Lankan authorities said the releases were acts of good will and not a swap. Negotiations, however, had been going on for more than two months.

Meanwhile, at Morawewa in Eastern Province six people were killed yesterday when about 40 guerrillas attacked a

# North being deserted 'by so-called friends'

## Meese gives more secret evidence

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Edwin Meese, the US Attorney-General, yesterday gave further in camera testimony to the House intelligence committee, as senators were trying to piece together evidence they have heard in Senate intelligence committee hearings, which ended on Thursday.

The senators, who heard the secret testimony in a protected room and have sworn not to reveal any details, heard from more than 30 witnesses, including senior figures from the White House, the National Security Council (NSC), the Pentagon, State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency.

However, frustrated senators were unable to get the key figures in the arms scandal to testify. Vice-Admiral John Poindexter and Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, who were formerly at the NSC, and General Richard Secord, who has retired, all invoked the Fifth Amendment against self-incrimination. The committee was disappointed that there were more questions raised than answered.

The key issue which the Senate was unable to determine was whether President Reagan had authorized the first shipment of arms from Israel to Iran in August 1985.

Mr Robert McFarlane, the former National Security Adviser, said the President gave a verbal authorization; Mr Donald Regan, the White House Chief of Staff, said Mr Reagan was opposed to any sale and only conceded it after he discovered it had happened.

The second issue still unresolved is who authorized the transfer of the profits from the arms sale to the Contras — at a time when it was illegal for the US to help them because of a congressional ban on military aid to the rebels.

Thirdly, the Senate wanted



Family reunion for the American mercenary, Mr Eugene Hasenfus, with his sons Adam, left, and Gene on arriving in Green Bay, Wisconsin, after his release from jail in Nicaragua.

to know how much money was involved. Mr Meese last month said that between \$10 million and \$30 million was diverted to the Contras. But some Contra leaders denied getting any of that money.

There have been accusations that middlemen took most of it. Congressional sources are now saying Mr Meese overestimated the figure, which is really between \$4 million and \$10 million.

Foreign ministers of eight Latin American countries have said they will send a ministerial delegation to Central America to renew efforts towards peace in the region (AP reports from Rio de Janeiro). The announcement came at the end of two days of talks on regional co-operation and prospects for peace in Central America. The countries represented were Colombia, Panama, Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Peru — members of the Contadora group and its supporters.

Other issues still to be clarified are whether Colonel North acted on his own or with higher approval. The roles of his associates, in and out of government, are still unclear.

President Reagan, who has asked for a full disclosure of the facts from all concerned, has now requested the Senate committee to make available as much of the evidence it heard as it can without jeopardizing US security. He indicated that he would present the facts to the American people.

Colonel North, who until now has refused to comment on the affair, has complained bitterly that he is now being abandoned by "so-called friends and colleagues". He told reporters, who have

# US officers watch Sandinista troops

Puerto las Flores, Nicaragua (AP) — Two American military observers watched as thousands of Sandinista soldiers took part in exercises defending Nicaragua against a mock attack by US and other forces.

The war games, called "Total Annihilation of the Enemy Invader," ended late on Thursday after three days of manoeuvres by 6,500 Sandinista troops using Soviet-made T-55 tanks, Mi-24 helicopter gunships, multiple rocket launchers, surface-to-air missiles and anti-aircraft batteries.

The manoeuvres, apparently the largest since the Sandinistas came to power in 1979, took place around the village of Somotillo, located in north-western Nicaragua about three miles from the Honduran border.

Among the foreign observers who watched the war games at Nicaragua's invitation were Colonel Edward Lorenzen, the Military Attaché in the US Embassy in Managua, and Major Victor Nell, the embassy's Air Attaché. Nicaraguan military sources said it was the first time that US military personnel had been permitted to watch Sandinista manoeuvres.

The US provides military aid to the Contra rebels, who attack Nicaragua from bases just across the border in Honduras.

General Humberto Ortega, the Defence Minister and brother of President Daniel Ortega, said Major Nell was particularly interested in seeing the Soviet-built Mi-24 helicopter gunship.

The general called Thursday's three-hour exercises "extremely satisfactory." He said they were part of "the general preparations that the Nicaraguan people are carrying out for confronting the growing dangers of a US invasion against Nicaragua."

The Honduran Government did not accept a Nicaraguan invitation to send observers, describing the manoeuvres as "ill-timed and highly provocative given the climate of tension existing along the border."

He urged them to admit their mistake in "adopting a hostile attitude towards a nation which rose up to regain its rights and nothing more."

"You know that you have great interests in the Persian Gulf and that no one except Iran can safeguard the Gulf's security. Now come out and say this explicitly," he said.

Mr Rafsanjani said Iran would never fall into the Soviet orbit, a possibility voiced by some American leaders.

"We will have nothing with the Soviet Union except an equal relationship," he said. "They (Americans) should get it out of their heads that we might become a Soviet satellite, but we can be friends with the Soviets... and that's what we are working for."

# Regan target of whispering campaign in Washington

The fall of Donald Regan is a classic example of the way power politics work in Washington. First there are the murmurs and whispers — press articles quoting "officials" or "sources" voicing dissatisfaction with the White House Chief of Staff. Then come the more authoritative, but still unnamed, calls from "senior Administration officials" for him to step down.

Then the leaks begin — President Reagan's California circle and, more damagingly, Mrs Nancy Reagan are quoted advising the President to dismiss his abrasive aide. Then senators and senior Republicans go public, criticizing him on television and speaking of him as an obstacle to the President's recovery.

Mr Regan digs in his heels, asserts his position and soldiers on. But the hammer blows are now raining on him daily. Vituperative profiles appear in the papers, reporters stalk him wherever he goes with the relentless question: "Will you resign?" And, of course, in the end he will.

Power in Washington, as in the Kremlin, works through symbols. And like the old men

# Washington View

By Michael Binyon

In his heyday, Mr Regan was always there, no more than a couple of steps from Mr Reagan, carrying the important papers, jostling a path clear for the President, snapping a comment or quip to the throng of reporters.

But when things began to go wrong, he faded from view. The "Prime Minister", as he enjoyed hearing himself dubbed, was no longer prime — others, such as Mr George Shultz and Vice-President George Bush, were there instead. Mr Regan was no longer sought out for his comments, no longer the star of the television interviews.

In Washington, influence lies only in its perception. For unlike governments in Europe, no American Cabinet member or White House official is a politician in his own right. All serve at the whim of the President. They have no elective base on which to rest their authority, no constituency they can mobilize to mount a challenge.

The only two men the American people elect to rule them are the President and the Vice-President. Power, therefore, depends on accomplishment, on being indispensable, on effectively carrying out the President's wishes. And since it is not always easy to know or anticipate these, a canny survivor has always to look over his shoulder to see who has the President's ear, or who has moved his office closer to the Oval Office.

The political silt in Washington, therefore, consists of innuendo, of suggestions that one is "out of the loop" and no longer valued as an adviser.

And this is usually a self-fulfilling rumour — usually, but not always. The Shultz example is a clear exception. A year or two ago, when conservatives were riding high in the Administration, the enemies of the dour pragmatist at the State Department put it about that Mr Shultz was on the way out, that he was so low-profile as to be almost invisible.

It was fervently predicted that he was disillusioned with his loss of influence and would resign. He did not. Mr Shultz, a consummate team player, out-maneuvred his opponents, and, until Reykjavik, was riding ever higher.

Then came Iran. Mr Shultz took a risk in distancing himself from the White House, to the fury of Mr Regan. Again, the symbols were so arcane as to be unintelligible to all but Kremlinologists or their White House equivalents: he did not issue statements of support for President Reagan; he allowed a tone of doubt and hesitation to creep into his voice.

But Mr Shultz now has a power base of his own: Europe and the world. He knows he is indispensable in the present crisis. The White House, whatever its irritation, cannot get rid of the last remaining figure credible to America's allies. The threat of resignation was never openly made. But it hung in the air, clear to all who read the press. And when he had won his way, Mr Shultz made the ritual statement of support and loyalty.

And to all the political analysts, the symbols and rituals have said more than any of the statements. Mr Reagan may insist he is keeping his Chief of Staff, but the portents tell otherwise.



Miss Jill Morrell, the fiancée of John McCarthy, a British hostage in Lebanon, looks at photographs of foreign hostages during a visit to Damascus. Miss Morrell, aged 29, is in the Syrian capital to try to seek the release of her husband-to-be, who has been held since April.



# The Asbach Story

It could easily be argued that Ruedesheim is the gateway to that most beautiful part of the River Rhine with its vineyards and castles.

What is beyond dispute is that it is the home of that most sought after German Brandy — Asbach-Uralt. For it was here, around the turn of the century, that Hugo Asbach founded his world-famous distillery.

It takes five litres of the finest wines to produce one single bottle of Asbach-Uralt. What it also takes is the family skill in distilling; the maturing in Limousin oak barrels; and of course the blending, handed down through generations, to create this soft, mellow, golden brandy. The after dinner brandy that isn't just for after dinner.

Discover it in discerning restaurants and off licences, or come and see us here in Ruedesheim from Monday to mid-day Friday for a tasting.

For further information write to: Weinbrennerei Asbach & Co., 6220 Ruedesheim am Rhein, Postfach 1130, West Germany.



# Withdrawal of new French 10-franc coins will cost £10m

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Less than two months after its unhappy birth, France's new "baby" 10-franc coin (worth about £1) has been killed off — to a unanimous sigh of relief, but at a cost of more than £10 million to the French taxpayer.

From the moment of its launch on October 22 the pure nickel coin, scarcely bigger than an old English sixpence, caused an uproar.

In colour, size and thickness it was almost

identical to a 50-centime piece.

Announcing the Government's decision to withdraw the new coin from January 1, M Edouard Balladur, the Finance Minister, emphasized that its creation was entirely the responsibility of the former Socialist regime.

He had considered withdrawing the 50-centime piece, but that would have cost an estimated £50 million.

A million of the new coins have gone into circulation alongside the former, large copper 10-

franc piece, which is about the size of an English 10p piece.

Privatization list: Names of the next four companies to be privatized after St Gobain, Parisbanks, and the television channel, TF1, have been announced by M Balladur.

They are Havas, the largest French advertising company; Crédit Commercial de France, one of the 10 biggest French banks; and two smaller banks, the Banque de Bâtiment et des Travaux Publics, and the Banque Industrielle et Mobilière Privée.



The Great Brandy from the Romantic Rhine



## Gorbachov sanctioned release of Nobel prize winner from exile

# Western concern helped end Sakharovs' ordeal

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin's decision, sanctioned personally by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, to allow Dr Andrei Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner, to return to Moscow ends a nightmare existence for the Nobel prize-winner dissident which began when he was banished to the closed city of Gorky nearly seven years ago.

During that time, he has lived under constant surveillance and more than occasional harassment by the KGB, cut off from the outside world and from his profession of advanced science within the Soviet Union. Most ordinary citizens have been convinced by an avalanche of official propaganda to regard him as a traitor. Many articles in the party press slyly attributed his alleged failings to the fact that he was the second wife, Mrs Bonner, is Jewish.

According to many Western experts, Dr Sakharov's exile — which began after his arrest on

a street of Moscow — is illegal, although Soviet officials recently used a press conference called to mark International Human Rights Day to argue that it was justified as an administrative decision taken by the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Over the years, a trickle of information has reached the West about the desperate conditions in which Dr Sakharov has had to live, surrounded by the secret police and deprived by a special jamming device of hearing any foreign broadcasts. He was never formally charged or convicted under any Soviet law.

Conditions in Gorky, a bleak industrial city on the banks of the Volga, some 250 miles east of Moscow, were graphically described in Mrs Bonner's recent book with the poignant title *Alone Together*.

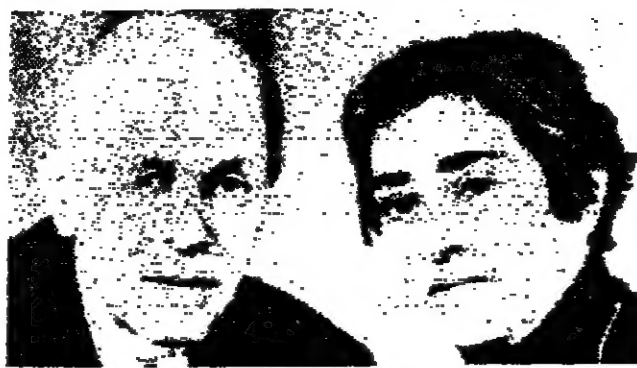
"Wherever you go, you feel the KGB watching, sometimes making films, sometimes

harassing," she wrote. "Sometimes you find that your house has been entered and things moved or taken."

Probably the most painful period of Dr Sakharov's long exile came in 1984 — he himself noted the aptness of the date — when the inventor of the Soviet hydrogen bomb and youngest-ever full member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences was forcibly fed to break a hunger strike mounted in an attempt to make the authorities let his wife travel abroad for urgent medical treatment, a move allowed more than a year later.

In response to the protest, Dr Sakharov was treated to what amounted to torture.

"I was again pushed down onto the bed without a pillow, and my hands and feet were tied. A tight clamp was placed on my nose so that I could breathe only through my mouth. Whenever I opened my mouth to take a breath, a



Dr Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner: the end comes to a nightmare existence in the closed city of Gorky.

spoonful of nutrient or broth containing strained meat would be poured into my mouth," he wrote in a smuggled account published in the West earlier this year.

"Sometimes my jaws were pried open by a lever. They would hold my mouth shut until I swallowed, so that I could not spit out the food. When I managed to do so, it only prolonged the agony... I had to gasp for breath. I could

feel the veins bulging on my forehead."

Although Dr Sakharov's ill-treatment and continuing exile became one of the biggest threats to Mr Gorbachov's efforts to improve the Kremlin's image on human rights, many Soviet officials seemed to regard it as justified, arguing that he should have been sent to a labour camp.

Those veteran Moscow correspondents who met Dr

Sakharov before his banishment remember him as a quietly spoken, impeccably mannered man who left a firm impression of what one hard-nosed American reporter described as "saintliness."

Among qualities cited by those who knew him during his frequent contacts with the Western media which so infuriated the authorities were his courage, determination and sheer strength of intellect in the subjects that were his speciality — theoretical physics and cosmology.

For many years he was involved in the crash Soviet programme to catch up with the US in nuclear weapons, a period when he was among the country's elite and was three times awarded the decoration Hero of Socialist Labour.

All this changed in 1968, when he published an essay in the West called *Thoughts on Progress, Coexistence and Intellectual Freedom*. Emerging only a few weeks before the

Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia, the essay, and later calls that the West should reject détente without internal Soviet liberalization, angered the Kremlin.

A vicious press campaign was unleashed in which he was depicted as a "pro-fascist". His eventual seizure by the KGB and exile became more intolerable in May, 1984, when the lifetime forged by his wife's trips to Moscow was cut with her, too, being exiled to Gorky for five years for alleged anti-state activities.

Observers here believe that it was the firm support which Mrs Bonner received during her meetings with world leaders during her recent stay in the West, such as Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Mitterrand, that finally persuaded the Kremlin to rethink the most self-defeating of its campaigns against non-conforming Soviet citizens.

Peter Reddaway, page 16  
Leading article, page 17

## Cautious welcome for Soviet decision

By Our Foreign Staff

Western officials have hailed the Soviet decision to free Dr Sakharov from internal exile, but said there were many other cases to be resolved if Moscow meant to turn a new leaf in its treatment of dissidents.

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said the decision would be warmly welcomed everywhere.

"At this time of happiness we should not forget the many others in the Soviet Union who are still deprived of those human rights for which Andrei Sakharov and his wife have themselves fought so hard," he said.

In Washington, the presidential spokesman, Mr Larry Speakes, said: "We welcome this as a personal victory of courage for the principles of human rights that the two have come to exemplify."

But he added: "There are countless others who remain incarcerated for no reason other than their desire to express their views."

The United States Ambassador in Moscow, Mr Arthur Hartman, said: "If he is allowed to return to Moscow to work, this is a wonderful development."

The French Foreign Trade Minister, M Michel Noir, described the release as a gesture after the Soviet dissident, Anatoly Marchenko, died in jail earlier this month.

In The Hague, a Dutch government spokesman said: "The Netherlands sincerely hopes this move will open the way for an improvement in the condition and fates of others in the Soviet Union such as Sakharov."

But a spokesman for the Amsterdam-based Bukovsky Foundation, which campaigns for human rights in the Soviet Union, also said the decision was an attempt to gloss over Marchenko's death.

## Turks still press to join EEC

By Andrew McEwen  
Diplomatic Correspondent

Turkey has served notice that it does not intend to take "No" as an answer from Britain in its bid to secure EEC membership.

Mr Ali Bozer, Turkey's Minister for EEC Affairs, flew home yesterday after revealing that he had told Sir Geoffrey Howe that a formal application was imminent. This was not what the Foreign Secretary wanted to hear.

Mr Bozer's stand showed that Ankara had chosen to ignore strong hints from Mrs Thatcher that the time was not ripe for Turkish membership.

Mr Bozer said he had noted discouraging remarks made by the Prime Minister at the EEC summit in London on December 6, and that Sir Geoffrey had repeated them during their meeting on Thursday.

Mrs Thatcher made two points at the summit: Turkey's association agreement with the EEC should be made to work before moving on to full membership, and the EEC should adjust to the accession of Spain and Portugal before accepting a 13th member.

## Soviet rioting 'over' Kremlin confirms more open policy

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet Government said yesterday that the situation in the Kazakhstan capital of Alma-Ata, scene of rioting against the appointment of a new leader of the Central Asian republic's Communist Party, had "returned to normal".

The news was given at a press conference by Mr Vladimir Petrovsky, the Deputy Foreign Minister, further reflecting the unprecedented fashion the Kremlin has chosen to publicize the serious disturbances in the nation's second largest republic.

Mr Petrovsky, deliberately drawing attention to the fact that the Kremlin had broken with the tradition of secrecy surrounding reports of internal unrest inside the Soviet Union, said: "The reports of the unrest were immediately relayed to the mass media. This is in line with the new policy of openness which was decided upon at the 27th congress of the Communist Party in February."

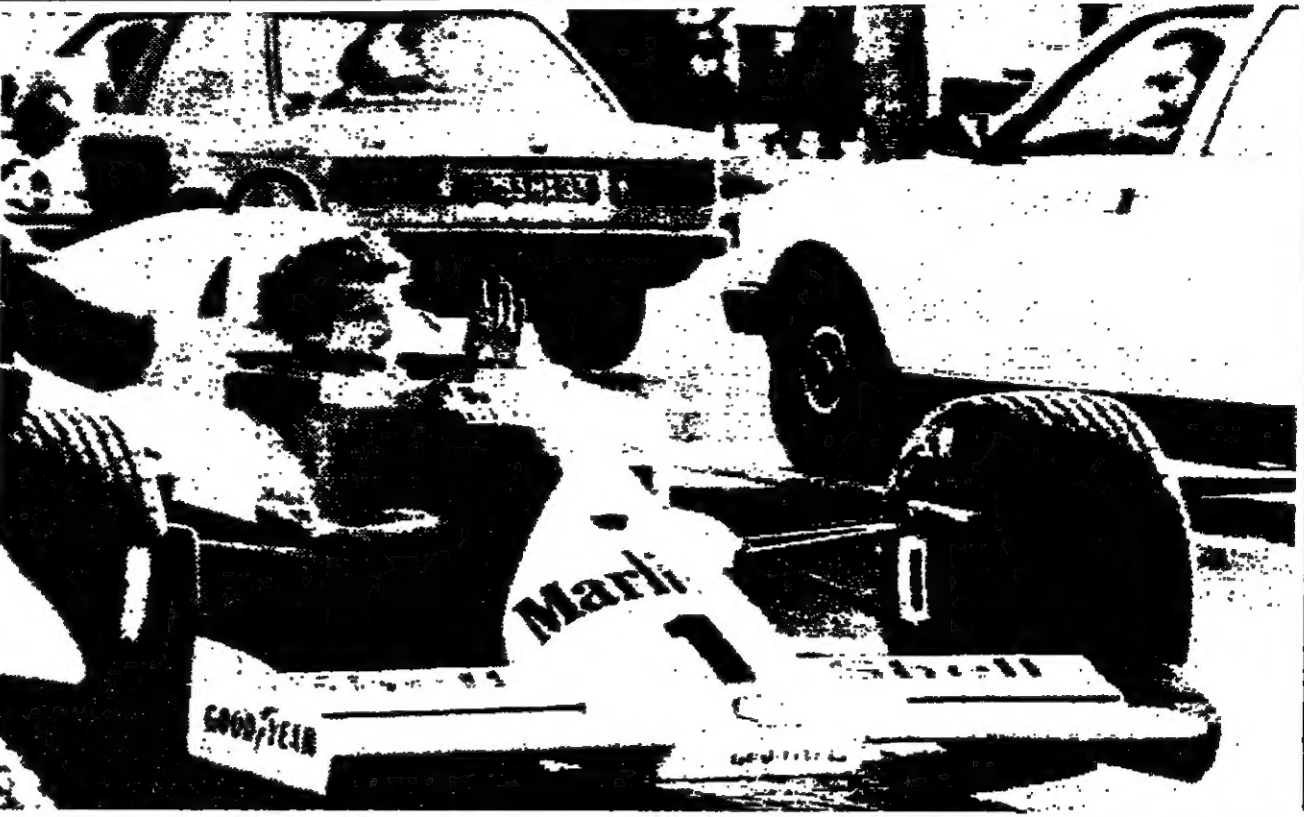
Mr Petrovsky did not add

greatly to the details about the disturbances first released on Thursday night by Tass. But he stressed that the "overwhelming and absolute majority" of party members in the republic had approved the decision to replace Mr Dinmukhamed Kunayev, aged 74, with Mr Gennady Kolbin, a 59-year-old Gorbachov loyalist and Russian national.

It was noted that the new policy did not extend to publicizing immediately exactly what methods had been used to put down the unrest, which is understood to have involved several hundred rioters and the burning of at least 20 cars, but it is assumed in Moscow that tough tactics were employed.

Although independent confirmation of the security situation in Kazakhstan was unavailable in Moscow, Western embassies appeared to accept the official assurances that the situation had returned to normal.

Leading article, page 17



Alain Prost, who has won the World Formula One motor racing championship twice, waving to motorists as he drives his McLaren racing car down the Champs Elysees yesterday in a lap of honour which is accorded to Frenchmen who achieve world status in their chosen field.

## China gets tough on screening

Peking (AFP) — China's Health Ministry, facing resistance by foreign students to mandatory Aids screening, has threatened to bar them from classes unless they complied.

The programme is part of China's efforts to keep the country free from the deadly disease. So far the disease has been discovered in only four Chinese, all haemophiliacs.

## Maradona in paternity suit

Naples (AP) — Court proceedings have begun in a paternity case involving the Argentine football star Diego Maradona, who plays for Napoli in Italy's First Division.

Signorina Cristina Sinagra, a 22-year-old woman from Naples, is claiming Maradona is the father of her recently born child.

## Mulroney trip

Harare (AFP) — The Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, is to make a three-day official visit to Zimbabwe in January.

## Too costly

Lagos (AFP) — Pan American World Airlines is ending nearly a quarter of a century of service to Africa after Nigeria's military Government cut the fares airlines can charge for flights out of Lagos.

## Death penalty

Peking (Reuters) — An accountant at the Bank of China and two accomplices from the Portuguese-administered territory of Macao have been executed in Zhuhai in the south of China for smuggling, fraud and embezzlement.

## Police hurt

Medina (Reuters) — At least seven policemen were injured when 300 Muslims stormed a police station in protest at the arrest of a Muslim leader in this Spanish enclave.

## Bewigged bear

Wellington (Reuters) — Dr Gerard Wall, the Speaker of New Zealand's Parliament, finding a large stuffed brown bear clothed in wig and gown occupying his chair when he returned from a dinner break, gave the bear the customary parliamentary bow before an attendant removed it from the chamber.

## Bokassa trial judges charge ex-police chief with perjury

From Philip Jacobson, Bangui

Public Works Minister, Lucien Mpongo, initially denied involvement.

But he contradicted himself and admitted he was the one who had escorted him to jail.

Up shot the public prosecutor with his by now familiar demands for Mr Kazin — who, interestingly, is now a highly placed official in the present Government — to pay the penalty for lying to the court.

To applause from on-lookers, the judge and his colleagues on the bench marched off into recess to consider what was to be done about him. It goes without saying that, like everything else in the Palais de Justice,

this turned into another time-consuming exercise.

Shortly after this little drama unfolded, there was another development: the former emperor's lawyers asked for a week-long recess over Christmas.

They argued that Bokassa, who is 65, was emotionally drained after five days of listening to scores of witnesses testifying about friends or relatives kidnapped and tortured to death or summarily shot.

There are those among the visiting press corps who suspect that this is something of a put-up job, but the court has already decided to suspend the hearings from Monday.

## Blacks begin Christmas campaign

## Five die over candle protest

From Michael Hornsby  
Johannesburg

The Christmas candle-lighting protest called by the main anti-apartheid groups has caused a new set of problems in South Africa, with at least five people killed so far this week in violent clashes between different black groups over its organization.

The deaths, in fighting between militant youths and gangs of blanket-clad Basuto tribesmen, known in township parlance as the "Russians", were first reported in yesterday's issue of the *Sowetan*, the main daily English-language newspaper read by blacks in the Johannesburg area.

The Soweto police later confirmed the deaths, and said that three people died in the Mafepeta district of Soweto, two in the Chiawelo district and one in the Phuti district, apparently as a result of knobkerrie attacks.

The trouble began on the evening of December 16, the start of the 10-day "Christmas Against the Emergency" protest called by the United Democratic Front (UDF), an

The British Ambassador to South Africa, Sir Patrick Moberly, yesterday delivered a protest Note to the South African Government on behalf of the EEC, expressing grave concern "at growing evidence of serious abuses of human rights in South Africa".

alliance of more than 800 anti-apartheid organizations.

As part of the protest, residents of Soweto and other black townships throughout the country were asked to switch off their electric lights between 7 pm and 9 pm and light candles instead. This request was widely obeyed in Soweto and many other townships.

In Basuto-occupied areas of Soweto, however, there was resistance to the young members of UDF street committees, known as "comrades", who, patrolled the township monitoring and enforcing the blackout. The house of one unco-operative Basuto was reportedly attacked and set alight.

Gangs of "Russians", armed with knives and knobkerries, then sought revenge, raiding houses and flogging and assaulting any youths they found. In addition to the five deaths, scores of other people were said to be injured.

The "Russians" have a long history in South Africa's black townships. Their name is said to derive from their reputation for violence — an unfair slur on the Basuto people as a whole and the blankets they wear to keep warm in their mountainous homeland of Lesotho.



# PARTYING SHOTS

We gave ten celebrities a camera each, sent them partying, and saw what developed



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## The MI5 case: No judgement until February

# Whitehall compromise hint as spy book hearing ends

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

The MI5 book hearing ended on a note of mystery yesterday after 22 days of evidence and legal argument estimated to have cost the British Government about £1 million and a good deal more in loss of dignity. A judgement in the marathon battle over Mr Peter Wright's memoirs is not expected before February.

The final act in Court 8D of the New South Wales Supreme Court included an angry rebuttal by Whitehall of allegations made against Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, and Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, and a suggestion that there could be a last-minute compromise.

It also quashed last-minute speculation of a deal on Mr Wright's book, *Spycatcher*, after a hint of compromise briefly entered the courtroom.

The mystery concerns precisely what the British Government intended by asking for "clarification" of its position, which on Thursday provoked Mr Justice Powell to accuse Whitehall of delaying tactics, and warn that he could dismiss the entire case.

It appears that the Government was asking the judge to be an arbiter of what material in the secret Wright manuscript is in the public domain — in other words, is common knowledge — by asking him to compare its contents with 26 other books. This proposal indicated a new flexibility on the important public domain issue.

The Government has throughout dismissed it as irrelevant, maintaining that Mr Wright was disqualified from writing about anything learnt during his career with MI5, whether it was in the public domain or not.

Yesterday morning Mr Malcolm Turnbull, counsel for Mr Wright, said his understanding was that Whitehall was offering the deal of a "blue pencil job" similar to that used on Nigel West's book, *A Matter of Trust*, which was published with government approval after being temporarily restrained.

"We remain prepared to enter into a

West-style negotiation, as long as it is carried out fairly and quickly," Mr Turnbull said.

Mr Theo Simos QC said, however, that Mr Turnbull had misunderstood the government position. The intention was that the judge should explore the principle of public domain. If, for example, a subject had been covered in two lines of a previous book, was Mr Wright entitled to write 20 pages on it?

If appropriate, Mr Simos said there would be discussions with Mr Wright about how the principle would apply to the whole manuscript. He described this process as "negotiation", but then said

**● The submissions (about Sir Robert and Sir Michael) were baseless, unjustified and should be rejected out of hand ●**

Mr Theo Simos, QC

that was "the wrong word" and changed it to "discussion".

Mr Simos then went on the offensive for one of the few times in the case in denouncing Mr Turnbull's attack on Sir Michael Havers and Sir Robert Armstrong.

The language used by Mr Turnbull in accusing these men of deceit had been "extravagant, melodramatic and outrageously inappropriate," Mr Simos said. "The submissions were baseless, unjustified and should be rejected out of hand. They were full of schoolboy debating tricks, full of emotive allegations and mixed metaphors, which even a third-rate journalist should not be proud of."

The attack on Sir Robert's credibility had been based on three matters: the letter he wrote to Chapman Pincher's publishers asking for a copy of *The Trade Is Treachery* when the Gov-

ernment already had page proofs; on his sworn answers to two interrogatories; and on the delay in correcting his mistake that Sir Michael had made the decision not to try to restrain the Pincher book.

Mr Simos said Sir Robert had admitted that his letter to the publishers had given "a misleading impression". But his answers to this question had been that of a truthful witness.

At this point, the judge interrupted to say that it could be said of Sir Robert that "he would not stoop to a lie when a half truth would do". He had admitted, the judge added, that though he would not wish to lie, there might be circumstances in which he had to.

The judge said: "I have to say to myself, 'I know that he has dissembled on one occasion.' I must bear that in mind."

That was not the issue, Mr Simos replied. The issue was whether Sir Robert lied in the witness box.

As to that, the judge said that in the past 10 years there had been only four witnesses who he had concluded were lying. His main objection to Sir Robert's testimony was that he was an official when the person who could have offered useful, hard evidence would have been a technician.

On the two interrogatories, Mr Simos said that, subject to qualifications made by Sir Robert on the replies themselves, there was no basis for suggesting that he had not been truthful in cross-examination.

On the one-week delay before Sir Robert told the court that he had been mistaken in testifying that it had been Sir Michael who decided not to seek restraint of the Pincher book, Mr Simos said: "No delay was attributable to Sir Robert."

Any delay on Sir Michael's side had been due to "study of the transcript and making inquiries from all appropriate persons, and then giving consideration as to whether it was appropriate to communicate with a witness under cross-examination."

## Upsurge in Uganda tribal war

# Support for rebel guerrillas in north worries Britain

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Disturbing evidence that President Yoweri Museveni is losing his military grip on northern Uganda in the face of stiff, tribally-based resistance has reached London.

Travellers returning from the region paint a grim picture of fighting virtually on a daily basis between the President's National Resistance Army and guerrilla movements.

The strife has severely hampered European relief efforts, driven many small farmers from their land, discouraged crop planting, and aroused concern among EEC officials in Brussels that food supplies may dwindle.

Four independent sources contacted by *The Times* agreed that the guerrillas were receiving strong popular support from local Acholi people. While still in control of Gulu, the main central northern town, and the road linking it to Kampala, government troops risked ambush whenever they moved into the bush.

Even troops in the town have been twice attacked. The local support will cause greater concern in Britain than the fighting itself. Whitehall has invested high hopes in President Museveni as the man most likely to break the

mould of Ugandan tribalism. Since he came to power in January his excellent civil rights record has encouraged ministers to believe that he could attract broad, inter-tribal support.

For several months continuing resistance in the north stemmed mainly from remnants of the Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA), the troops of the previous government.

The balance of guerrilla forces has since changed. Recent visitors say that UNLA units have merged with a broader but loose-knit resistance which has no clear leader. Roving bandits and cattle rustlers have added to the confusion.

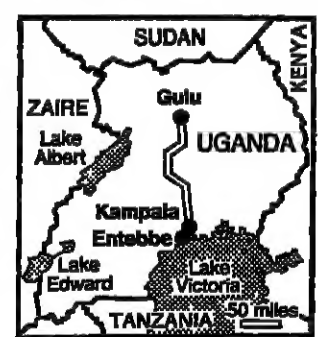
One Acholi source said there was now hardly a family

that did not have a relative linked to the guerrillas. Local people refer to them simply as *ajuns* or *ajidi*. Both words are said to mean "the people from the bush".

The trends have prompted mounting pessimism about the chances for national reconciliation. For 20 years the Nilotic tribes of the north — the Acholis, Langis and West Nile peoples — dominated the far more numerous southern Bantu through the governments of Idi Amin, Milton Obote and Tito Okello.

While President Museveni's support comes from the Bantu, his policy is strongly opposed to tribalism. In an attempt to attract broad support he has imposed stern discipline on his own troops.

An attempt to cast doubt on their reputation emerged last week. A prominent Acholi flew to London to air allegations of serious civil rights abuses by the President's forces. He claimed that government troops hunting guerrillas had killed 11 civilian hostages in a single incident. On another occasion women attempting to flee a hut set on fire by troops were shot dead as they broke out of a mud wall.



## Suicides by young Japanese rise

Tokyo — Suicides by young Japanese have risen dramatically this year, with 723 children and teenagers taking their own lives in the 11 months to December (David Watts writes).

The biggest increase in suicides was among young girls, apparently prompted by the

example of Miss Yukiko Okada, a young pop singer. Miss Okada was the incarnation of the dreams of thousands of romantic, immature Japanese girls. After a failed suicide attempt in April, she was released from hospital only to jump promptly to her death from an apartment win-

dow. The singer was distraught over an unhappy affair with an older man.

A rash of "copycat" suicides followed and by the end of November 220 girls, 77 per cent more than last year, had killed themselves. The biggest increase came in May after Miss Okada's death.

## Zimbabwe crackdown on 'quacks'

From A Correspondent Harare

The Zimbabwe Government is planning to clamp down on bogus "traditional healers" by introducing a disciplinary code along the lines in force for Western-trained doctors.

The traditional healers or herbalists have been officially recognized since independence in 1980 and their previous, description — witch doctors — is frowned upon. But after six years of talks and studies the authorities have not come up with a definition of a "traditional healer" or a set of examinations which could be imposed to check their abilities.

The last time an African government tried to tackle the problem was more than 160 years ago, when King Shaka's Zulu empire was faced with an epidemic of teenage boys trying to evade army service by enrolling as trainees with doctors. They were made to sleep unarmed in the hyena-infested bush to prove their supernatural powers.

Zimbabwe's *bona fide* traditional healers, or *ngangas*, as they are known, received warm praise from the country's foremost expert on western medicine, the late Professor Michael Gelfand, who acknowledged their ability to treat psychosomatic illnesses beyond the reach of European science.

The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, told a group of government-trained health assistants in Harare on Thursday that the state-sponsored Zimbabwe National Traditional Healers' Association (Zinatha) was ready to weed out quacks who cheated gullible people in the country's remote areas.



An Israeli soldier stands guard in Manger Square, Bethlehem, as part of the increased security measures being taken in preparation for the flood of tourists over Christmas.

## Jerusalem police raid bible college

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Police with sniffer dogs trained in finding explosives raided the Shuvu Banim yeshiva (bible college) in the old city of Jerusalem early yesterday morning.

After a search of the rambling old building, in the Muslim quarter of the city, they arrested one student for possession of a knife and a dagger.

Another student from the college was arrested on Wednesday after police searched the car he had been driving and found rags and turpentine inside. The car had been abandoned after a chase on Tuesday night, when its three occupants disappeared into the darkness.

A student from the same college was stabbed to death in the Old City last month, provoking violent anti-Arab demonstrations after three Palestinians were arrested for the murder.

Yesterday's raid was carried out as part of police investigations into grenade booby traps set outside an Arab home and under an Arab-owned car, which were discovered on Wednesday in east Jerusalem.

The bombs had been made from Israeli Army grenades and had been set using similar techniques. They were defused by an Israeli Army bomb disposal team.

Police say they are investigating a possibility that there has been a rebirth of the extremist Jewish "underground" gang, members of which in the past have been responsible for bombing the cars of West Bank Arab mayors and for planning to blow up the Dome of the Rock in the Old City.

The occupied territories continue to remain tense, with occasional stone-throwing incidents.

## Labour in revolt at Israel budget cuts

Jerusalem — Labour members of Israel's coalition Government of National Unity, backed by the party's political bureau and the Histadrut trade union movement, mean to block the economic austerity plan and budget due to be presented to the Cabinet tomorrow (Ian Murray writes).

According to the Likud Finance Minister, Mr Moshe Nissim, the package is intended to herald a new era in the economy, but Labour ministers, led by Mr Shimon Peres, who as Prime Minister brought in the last austerity plan in July 1985, have damned the scheme as hitting the poor to help the rich. Even more significantly, they claim that it will put the nation at risk.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, has emphasized this in pointing out that budget cuts have already undermined the security of the country.

Mr Rabin has also told the Knesset that not only has military training had to be reduced, ammunition reserves used up and emergency depots raided, but that all of its production secrets have had to be disclosed as the state-run defence industries have struggled to stay in business.

The disclosures were made, he said, to try to interest foreign buyers in top-secret weapons systems designed and

developed by the defence industries. The need to find buyers to keep the factories in business was reluctantly judged to be more important than keeping their secrets. Even though the disclosures had now been made, it would be a year or more before it was known if the sacrifice had paid off.

He also complained that weapons research had had to be curtailed and that research staff would have to be cut by 700 more before the end of March, merely to hold spending inside last year's budget.

This year's draft budget has defence contributing savings equivalent to 40 per cent of all of the 486 million shekels

(£240 million) in cuts being sought by the Treasury.

This would top 180 million shekels off the defence budget, while Mr Rabin has been pressing for an increase of at least that amount just to maintain defence levels.

Health and education are the other two areas where the Treasury is seeking large cuts. Both are run by Labour ministers, who are threatening to join Mr Rabin in blocking the budget. Mr Nissim insists that the plan must be implemented if the economy is to continue its painful recovery. He has told Mr Rabin the security of the country relies at least as much on a sound economy as it does on the Army.

## Welshman accused of Lufthansa kidnapping

From John England, Bonn

A Welshman extradited from London to West Germany last month is to be charged with involvement in the terrorist kidnapping of a Lufthansa airline manager in Bolivia in 1983, for whom a \$1.5 million (about £1 million) ransom was paid.

Mr Alan Rees, aged 35, of the South Wales town of Ammanford, has been in jail in Frankfurt on remand since his extradition on November 26 after losing a long legal battle to stay in Britain.

Mr Rees, along with four members of the Bolivian Socialist Falange group, is alleged to have kidnapped Herr Michael Wurche, aged 41, the Lufthansa regional manager, from outside his home in La Paz on November 14 1983.

Herr Wurche told police that five masked and armed men bundled him in to the back seat of his car, gave him an injection that made him lose consciousness, and drove him to a shack on the outskirts of La Paz where he was chained to a bed.

The kidnappers' ransom demand of \$1.5 million was met with registered notes from the West German Federal Bank, and Herr Wurche was released near La Paz airport.

Mr Rees, who denies all charges against him, was arrested at Gatwick airport in March 1984.

The spokesman in Wiesbaden said three of the Bolivians, who initially accused Mr Rees of masterminding the kidnapping, had also been detained.

## India clears Briton of Bhopal spying charges

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi

The Supreme Court of India has ordered the Government to drop all charges against Mr David Bergman, a Briton arrested in Bhopal for spying.

Mr Bergman, a 21-year-old law student, approached the court on Friday to clear his name and alleged that the Madhya Pradesh government continued to malign him.

Justice M M Dutta and Justice Rangath Misra said in their judgement that the charge against Mr Bergman was not maintainable and that the state government and the central Government should "clearly" state that there was no charge of spying against him.

Mr Bergman bicycled from Birmingham to Bhopal to raise money for the survivors of the gas tragedy of December

1984 in the Union Carbide plant at Bhopal.

In Punjab, suspected Sikh terrorists killed a student in Amritsar yesterday.

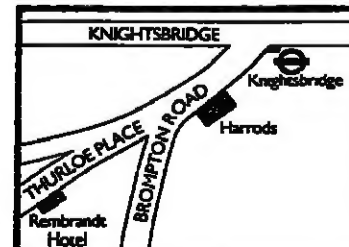
Three days earlier, terrorists killed a Sikh family of six, including three children, for having allegedly given information to police about Mr Dhana Singh Sidhu, a "Khalistan" leader who was arrested on Sunday night.

Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, the Punjab Chief Minister, has defended the police entry into the Golden Temple in Amritsar earlier this year. He asked the Akali breakaway group in the state assembly in Chandigarh what else he could have done when the terrorists announced the formation of "Khalistan" from the ramparts of the temple.

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## THE ARTS

## OPERA

La Bohème  
Grand, Leeds

It no longer shocks when notoriously shocking directors fail to shock, and so David Freeman's production of *La Bohème*, where the characters actually look, and behave credibly like, young Parisians of around 1830 can be accepted quite cheerfully as an essay in naturalism, and a successful essay at that.

I think it is possible to take the opera at other than face value, but Mr Freeman provides good reason for treating it naively. First in the physical energy he inspires in the cast, and second in his device of a narrator.

Between the acts Schumann reappears, 20 years on, to reminisce, so that we really are shown, as the original novel had it, "scenes from Bohemian life".

The highly-romanticized and compacted nature of the scenes is perhaps explained as due to the working of memory; alternatively we may be witnessing an opera composed by Schumann himself.

More practically, the narrative covers scene changes neatly.

But, of course, the main business is the opera, which, curiously, seems shortened by the extension, perhaps because it is so definitively framed into four panels, vivid though the acting style is.

The garret is indeed a tiny space, only about 12 feet across and this thrusts the companions up against each other, helping them to generate in themselves and in one another a self-conscious, exaggerated vitality. That effect is also assisted by the fact that David Rogers' designs provide grey backgrounds, barely in focus, against which the costumes parade in vigorous colours, especially in the second act. With nothing picturesque in the setting, the action is closely centred on the six young people.

The production bears that centring because all six are young and young-looking, spontaneous in their behaviour and fresh of voice. Eirian Davies as Mimì is not only a triumph of make-up: her distant vibrato-less tones are plausibly those of a consumptive, and yet she can swing from this delicacy to a fullness that is still in character. William Shimell is darkly suave and sensual as Marcello, and Anna Steiger, after a shaky start as Musetta, looks set to equal him in her play-acting and vocal cunning. Clive Bayley, vocally unfit, acted an eager, shaggy Colline to John Connell's secure pronouncements from the pit, where Elgar Howarth was in charge of a delectably colourful orchestral performance.

Paul Griffiths

## Prize turkeys of 1986

With five more days to go before the Christmas dinner our film and television critics select some of the biggest screen flops of the year

Britain led the world in turkey-farming this year. The prize bird, of course, was the disastrous *Revolution*. Apart from being a profound setback to the economy and morale of British films, Hugh Hudson's story of the American Revolution raised the profound question of how it was possible for a major film organization to invest over \$20m in a script whose inadequacies must have appeared from the first, even to the most inexperienced eye.

The actors (Al Pacino and the ubiquitous Nastassia Kinski) did not have a chance against the absurdities and chatter of the screenplay; and the visual possibilities were largely sacrificed to a naive quest for newsreel-style authenticity (aka wobbly cameras).

Another British extravaganza, Absolute Beginners turned Colin McInnes' mirror of the Fifties into a series of superficial, nostalgic, scatter-brained pop videos. The novel became just another period artefact, alongside the old TV sets, refrigerators, news headlines and a middle-aged Mandy Rice-Davies. The director Julien Temple offered as his surprising excuse: "I simply wanted to conjure up the experience I remember the first time I took speed in the city".

Highlander (directed by Russell Mulcahy, like Julien Temple a pop

video wizard) saw maximal deployment of special effects and high technology alongside minimal story sense. The comic-strip saga was a farago about a gaggle of immortal creatures, representing good and evil and battling down the ages for the prize of universal intelligence. For sure none of them had ever won it.

Car Trouble will at least be remembered for putting on the screen a venerable sexual myth about the fornicating adulterers who find themselves inextricably trapped in the act by a muscular spasm. The director was David Green.

The daffiest bird from the British hatching was *Biggles*, directed by John Hough. It was a bizarre decision to resurrect Captain W. E. Johns' boy's book hero (whose one-time devotees must by now be well past cinema-going age); it was a defeatist one to hurl the film into mid-Atlantic, subordinating the nominal hero to a modern New Yorker who keeps falling through a time-war to get caught up in the adventures of Biggles and his pals on the Western Front in 1917.

In Hollywood, Turkeycock bellicosity is currently potent stuff at the box office. *Top Gun* and *Heartbreak Ridge*, which tell young America what fun the next war will be. Sylvester Stallone does his bit for international misunderstanding in *Rocky IV* by battling a Soviet Goliath twice his size. Naturally the Commie has the advantage of costly technological training, as well as steroids and plain cheating. Honest American guts conquer, just the same.

Australian actor and director Bruce Beresford's *King David*, diligently doing a biblical roundup of the Biblical monarch's diplomatic career and private life, failed to capture the flamboyance of old De Mille epics, though it did revive some of the absurdities — like the robed stenographer who announces he's taking it all down for the Book of Samuel, or the nasty moment when Richard Gere girds up his athletic loins to dance before the Lord.

Probably the first film adapted from a board game was *Clue* (in this country, where it was invented,

known as "Cluedo"). This predictably doomed undertaking fell to an Englishman, Jonathan Lynn, as his first feature assignment. The film has its place in history as the only time in half a century that anyone thought it funny when the French Maid says "Out, out".

For Britain they changed the title of *Howard the Duck* to *Howard*. A New Breed of Hero, evidently hoping that audiences would not notice that the nasty little thing from outer space was a bird. But no one was fooled, and the box office has proved the Duck a kosher Turkey.

Everyone has his blind spots: in Roman Polanski it is apparently an inability to direct either action or knockabout comedy. Since *Frantic* was intended as knockabout comedy spoof adventure, another \$30m (of Franco-Tunisian money this time) went more or less down the drain. The galleon was nice.

Finally two Turkey Tides that have not yet surfaced in this country, but deserve recording. *Class of Nuke 'Em High* promises high jinks and comical catastrophes when an entire school is exposed to radiation from a nuclear power plant fall-out, and given a title like *Revenge of the Teenage Vixens From Outer Space*, the movie to go with it is almost superfluous.

David Robinson



Howard the Duck: a bird that did not take off

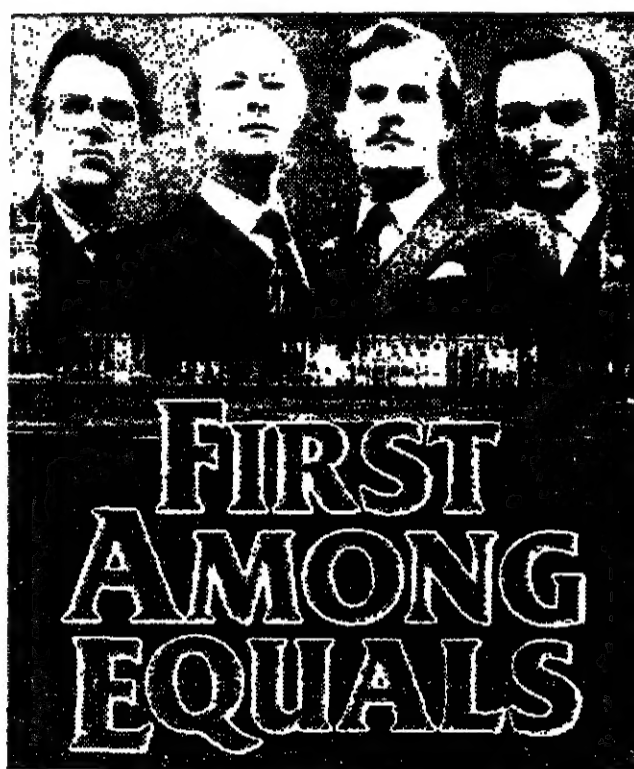
## Worst among equals

In American parlance, a "couch potato" is a home-grown tuber distinguished by deep roots and square eyes. Where humans have heads and hands, couch potatoes have programme guides and auto-changers. This easy-care domestic vegetable requires only occasional watering with alcoholic beverages.

As a member of the English sub-species "sofa spud", I happily absorb snooker, Gainsborough movies, sham-pook commercials, *Alle, Alle*, snooker repeats, news for the deaf. I have been known to sit through programmes hosted by Dennis Norden; a nicely tinted test card gets my vote every time.

But nothing short of death threats would induce me ever again to watch a single minute of *First Among Equals* (Granada). This much-vaunted "drama" of political ambition and men's tailoring had all the allure of a bus timetable.

An unwatchable novel became an unwatchable serial staffed by decent second-division actors who ought to have had more sense of shame. With its plywood characterization and fibreglass dialogue, it easily beat *Life and Loves of a She Devil* as the year's silliest fictional adaptation.



The unreadable into the unwatchable

My second hate was *The Story of English* (BBC2), a fulsome babble in weekly instalments. This sprawling historical survey of the mother tongue as she spoke was a useful idea torpedoed by lack of ideas, and suffering from a surfeit of Roberts (McCrum and MacNeil), who — not knowing how properly to enlighten and entertain their audience — ended by patronizing and boring it.

But the bronze medal in the 1986 Turkey Olympics went to *England v Argentina*, a

pantomime in which the eventual World Cup winners triumphed over the finest permits that ever set sail from Albion's shore.

The original script was clumsily rewritten in a sweatering dug-out; the Demon King kept his head and used his hand; John Barnes was given all of ten minutes as understudy; Ray Wilkins was not sent off. It got even hotter. John Motson has missed his vocation as a potato broker.

Martin Cropper

## Self-appointed household gods

Much as we now look back at mercury cures, tobacco, and hallucinogens, so will future generations be astonished by how we have been fool enough to allow violence into our homes under the mask of pleasure. By then, the correlation between violence on screen will be an accepted truism.

Another cause for wonderment will be the madhouse stranglehold that Desmond Wilcox and Esther Rantzen currently exert on our nation. To have these two as household gods must be some reflection on our home.

Esther, self-appointed moral guardian ("very, very interested in kinkamas and the Ethiopian film") with the expression of a laughing bo-constructor, and Desmond, mercilessly slighting on exposed flesh like a bluebell to extract that one last tear. The most gruesome thing about



Terry Waite and Esther Rantzen: a taste for the centre stage

Television criticism may be rightly regarded by many as the last refuge of would-be sages and sit-down comedians; but, when it comes to ridding a world of its ill we tube-thumpers have one advantage over those more authoritative prophets of doom who double-up as clowns — such as chief constables, old Young Turks and the moral re-arrangement school of cricket correspondents. With TV, the bad can be extinguished at a switch of a button.

It is easy to denounce obvious individual horrors of the year, knowing that they have already been zapped by a touch of good on many a remotest control: Brian Moore's iniquitous kan-

## When to press the button

garoo court before the World Cup which somehow judged Kevin Keegan to be a better footballer than George Best, *The Price is Right* (passim), Steve Davis winning a final frame of snooker, Russell Grant (past, present and future). However, in seasonal sympathy with those other moralizers who in vain kick against prizes and try to repel waves, I will declare myself against some general trends in television.

and lastly Terry Waite straining to be Alastair Burnet.

I do not know why the words "the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy" carry the charge they do, but whenever I hear them my stomach convulses. Mr Waite performs as excellent a job as Mr Rantzen, but in making centre stage his work behind the scenes he does both himself and this work a disservice.

The single worst series this year consisted in the interviews Terry Waite conducted with people he much admires. Looking like a great St Bernard which had lost its brandy bottle, Waite inspected his hands, giggled, and talked a lot about himself. Invited to discuss her work for Save The Children, Princess Anne had to listen to Mr Waite's fantasies about becoming a musician.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Let there be no more televised award ceremonies, all mannered hypocrisy in a tuxedo of unctious, less they start giving televised awards for televised award ceremony. Let there be no more Royal travellings lest we subliminally assume that foreign states only exist when blessed by the Windsors.

And finally, let there be a distinction between chat shows and arts and book programmes — other than that in the former the guests promote their own works, in the latter that of their friends.

Andrew Hislop

## Tales of 1001 fantasies

The *Walled Kai Lung* by Ernest Bramah (Oxford, £4.95)

O most esteemed and discerning reader, learn of these gravity-removing and elaborately devised though not absolutely authentically Oriental tales from the mouth of the itinerant story-teller Kai Lung.

Highly esteemed by such not inconsiderable mandarins as J.B. Priestley and Hilaire Belloc, who is there who would stoop so near to the dusty ground beneath their bound and elegant feet as to complain that Ernest Bramah, the exceedingly industrious and versatile author of these printed leaves, had never actually been many li further East than Calais and knew not the first thing about Ancient China?

For the Bramah aficionado this may seem a poor imitation of his style, but this is how it appears to the uninitiated.

The *Walled Kai Lung*, the first in a series of Kai Lung books that brought Ernest Bramah fame and fortune and even a fan club, is written in a style which mixes Orientalized pseudo-archaic circumlocutions and bathetic modern colloquialisms.

He creates an absurd world of elaborate etiquette and ceremony, where true love,

## PAPERBACKS

heroism and honour struggle against greed and cowardice. Supernatural events are commonplace; but the main thrust that hampers everyone's pursuit of a happy life is an all-pervading and senseless bureaucracy of present day proportions.

Regardless of his lack of knowledge about China, Bramah includes all the popular conceptions and misconceptions of Imperial Chinese life; essentially a mixture of puppy-pie, tea drinking, and ancestor worship.

The stories themselves are entertaining. Bramah uses the plots of familiar folk tales, such as the simple lad who makes good by making the Emperor laugh (in this case by means of a troupe of highly trained performing locusts), the return of the nobleman's long-lost son who has grown up as a goatherd, or a variation on the Midas story.

There are some delightful characters, such as the man whose job is to catch brilliantly coloured winged insects, and whose great skill is to be able to leap high in the air and select from any passing band the one he particularly desires.

Although bogus, the Oriental philosophy that informs each tale is often telling. Spurious sayings such as: "It is

a mark of insincerity of purpose to spend one's time in looking for the sacred Emperor in the low-class tea-shops", are amusing, ironic, and true. Some of the sayings, however, reveal Bramah's wit at its weakest: "Beware lest when being kissed by the all-seeing Emperor, you step upon the elusive banana-peel."

In one of his stories, Kai Lung describes how he laboured for years to produce his masterpiece, to find that all his thoughts had all already been written centuries before by the great Lo Kuan Chang.

Sample excerpts from the work in question will give you an idea of what the joke is: "A sedan-chair! A sedan-chair! This person will unhesitatingly exchange his entire and well-regulated Empire for such an article;" and "O nobly intentioned but nevertheless exceedingly morose Tung-shin, the object before you is your distinguished and evilly-disposed-of father's honourably-inspired demon."

It is very funny if you like that sort of thing. I suspect it strays into the category described by Fowler as pedantic humour: "(although) the impulse is healthy for children... there will always be some who fail to realize that the clever habit applauded at home will make them insufferable abroad."

Annabel Edwards

## One degree under

The *Adventures of Speedfall* by John Fuller (Penguin, £2.95)

John Fuller is a fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford. Speedfall, the character he has created to be the mainstay of these stories, is a philosophy don at an Oxford college, and immersed in the intrigues of the senior common room. He is a silly man, liable to the sort of misjudgements that lead to inconveniences sometimes bizarre, but more often just tedious. All the academic stereotypes are there: some are locked in conflict about

whether to sell off part of the college estates, others are worried about an election to an Honorary Fellowship and who is going to get it, or whose bit of research discredits someone else's. Do people in Oxford colleges really live these thin little lives or is it a wholly artificial convention? Either way, it is hard to see who, outside the academic ghetto, could be entertained by these scenes of petty jealousy. Geriatric school stories are not really appealing.

Anne Barnes

## A magic Miller mural

## THEATRE

The American Clock  
Olivier

Arthur Miller's "mural" of the American Depression may have looked good at the Cottesloe, but it looks nothing short of magnificent in its new setting: an epic work which has now found an epic stage.

Surveying the country from New York to Louisiana and deploying a company who through the playing area and auditorium as rioting farmworkers, relief queues, and dance hall customers, it expands to charge the building with life and re-enact the agony of a nation. It is hard to imagine how it was ever presented in studio conditions.

Its director, Peter Wood, has had a shaky year, but here at least he fully regains his ability to mobilize all the theatrical elements in projecting a text with maximum force and fluency.

Upstage, Timothy O'Brien presents the mural itself, a substratum of industrial scrap topped with an expanse of virgin land. The company assemble before this geological icon, walking and roller-skating round a slowly turning revolve under two giant street lamps. It is a wonderful image of the anonymous American melting pot before any individual faces emerge.

The weakest passages of the play are its pre-crash opening scenes which set up no more than a generalized sense of apprehension. Thereafter every scene tells a private as well as a public story.

This is not simply a question of autobiography. Much of the piece does relate to the Baums of Brooklyn, who are closely related to Miller's own family. But young Lee Baum (Neil Darglish) is there more to observe the lives of others than to tell his own story, and the play's most powerful episode — a re-enactment of the Iowa farmers' uprising, in



Facing the Depression: David Schofield and Barrie Ingham

which a bankrupt farmer auctions off his property for \$1 — takes leave of the Baums altogether.

What we see, through Lee's uncommitted eyes, is a country that has abruptly lost its one certain belief, and is splitting up in all directions into violence, panic, suicide, madness, and political fanaticism.

With that scenario, it is one of Miller's achievements that so much of the piece is also very funny; not only in directly comic scenes, such as that of a young song-writer (Barry James) doggedly turning out would-be hits and ignoring his mother's exhortations to marry the landlord's daughter; but also in the glancing ironies which successive scenes cast on each other.

The production is at its best in weaving patterns of that kind: part variety show, part drilled public spectacle, in the

Irving Wardle

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December 20-26

# SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

## The pleasure of their company

Great party-givers are made, not born.  
Shona Crawford Poole spoke to three stylish — and very different — hostesses about the elusive art of entertaining

In the hurry-burry of the seasonal bacchanal there will be many to agree with whoever wrote "the art of hosting is that one can know what things make a good hostess and still be quite unable to achieve them."

The heyday of the hostess as one who entertained sumptuously or modestly in her own home was Edwardian. Today's most talked-about parties and dinners are given by women who entertain without the armies of servants their grandmothers might have called on. Here are some whose styles are individual and whose invitations prized.

book was published, and she has little time for fuss after a full day as managing director and co-principal of Leith's School Of Food And Wine. She swears that her husband chooses and buys all her clothes without her assistance.

### SCENE SETTING

"I entertain very little in Bristol and there it has to be very informal. In London, it is in the dining room. We have eight or 14. For 14 I bring in the kitchen table and William and I sit at separate tables."

### GUESTS

"Obviously I entertain politicians, but not all Tories and not too many MPs at any one time or they take over the conversation completely. Also they often leave in time to vote at 10pm in the House of Commons. As a result I tend to remember occasions by what the vote was."

"Otherwise our guests are usually other cooks like Josceline Dimbleby — who is an old friend — or journalists like her husband, David."

### DRINK

"I am surprised by how much MPs drink. We don't drink very grand wine. Instead of Montrachet we drink Muscadet and instead of the very grand claret we would like, we have Fleurie. The pocket dictates."

### FOOD

"I play a sort of trick on them all and see if I can get away with health food. And it does work: I have rationalized it to the point where it imitates ordinary food."

"We might have a warm salad, then poached chicken breasts with a red pepper sauce, then a pretty arrangement of fresh fruit or a sorbet. I have just started doing biscuit cups made of filo pastry filled with fruit and people have no idea that they are practically fatless."

"I used to make French dressing with yoghurt and all that but I have stopped because I just don't think it is as nice as oil."

### FREQUENCY

"We have people for dinner less often now — about every



Caroline Walgrave: "I have always relied on William to take charge of the conversation"

three weeks. Of course there are three birthday parties, one for each of the children. I share a birthday with William and we used to have a joint party for that, a large dinner party. I don't like cocktail parties and don't go to them."

### RULES

"I like to be well-prepared so that I can be relaxed. I think we are quite good at making busy people relax. I am not sure I have rules at all. I have always relied on William to take charge of the conversation. I am lost if he is not there when the evening starts."

If food and conversation at the Walgraves could not be more modern, the formalities are the traditional ones. "We only separate if there are lots of MPs or if the point of the evening is work, and then not necessarily by sex."

### GUESTS

"I do no business while entertaining. I devote a lot of time to my business and I keep a lot of time for my friends. But I don't mix the two."

### DRINK

"I notice that people are drinking less. Hardly anyone drinks anything except wine before dinner. Then they carry on with wine, or sometimes water, through dinner."

"I think that people now want to be in control. You don't get away any more with a heavy lunch with lots of drink and being inefficient in your job. And in the morning, if you are not on good form and up quite early, it does not do."

### FOOD

"I give people cold food, warm sometimes but very rarely something hot. I find people work late. Sometimes they have to go and see someone for a drink. I like to have done all the work and not to be worried about the food."



Cressida Bell: "I only want to give parties where everyone who comes says it is the best party they have ever been to"



Nathalie Hambro: "I don't have a dinner party, as such, very often; once every 10 days, say"

Cressida Bell's parties, it has been said, cost her guests an arm and a leg just to get through the front door. Typically, an invitation will command "dress carnival style, bring champagne". She says, with unshakable assurance, that "people have got used to the fact that it will be worth their while."

The daughter of art historian Professor Quentin Bell and granddaughter of Bloomsbury luminaries Clive and Vanessa Bell, she designs and prints bold textiles in darkest Hackney, last pool of affordable studio and workshop space near central London.

Her parties are as dramatic as her work. A black-and-white bash — even the food was two-tone — for 150 marked her final year at the Royal College of Art. When her birthday coincided with a royal wedding, there was a party for which the guests had to dress as kings and queens. At the moment lack of suitable party space is cramping her larger-than-life entertaining style, which ideally involves no fewer than a hundred guests, a theme, costumes, decorations, eating, drinking, dancing and dawn ("One must not forget to have done something for lunch the next day").

She says: "I suppose I only want to give parties where everyone who comes to it says it is the best party they have ever been to. One is trying to surpass oneself all the time."

### SCENE SETTING

"The visual side of my parties is very important. When I have a theme and everyone has dressed up, the whole entrance thing becomes very important. People who have decided to be too clever and worn something silly have apologized and said they felt completely out of place. If you are not wearing what I have asked you to wear, you are not part of the action. When you walk into a room and you look wonderful and everyone else looks wonderful that starts you off really well."

"I like the dressing up. Getting the men to dress up is very important. If you can get them to do it, you know you are really on to a winner."

"I've seen whole rooms full of people — who have never waltzed in their lives — really get going, carried along by the occasion."

### GUESTS

"A completely mixed bunch of painters, designers, television people, lawyers, writers — all sorts. I often mix them quite radically."

### DRINK

"I still ask my guests to bring it because I can't afford it. I provide a certain amount."

### FOOD

"At a sit-down dinner party the food is absolutely all-important. For a party-party it has just got to be nice. I never really enjoy eating at parties because you can't concentrate on the food."

"If I had loads and loads of money I suppose my parties would not be nearly so good because I would end up doing

all the grand and conventional things. A shoestring doesn't hurt."

### FREQUENCY

"There is a distinct lack of parties this Christmas. I thought it was just me, but a number of people who always have a Christmas party are not having one this year. I don't know why not."

### RULES

"Are there any? I suppose the only unforgivable thing is stinginess. And paper plates."

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### SCENE SETTING

"I love candles, everywhere. I like candlelight because it is very soft, but you need a lot of candles. If you have only one or two candles you have a very hard light."

"Sometimes in winter I light candles for lunch. I put night-lights in little glass cups — nothing smart."

Boxing clever:  
Films to watch out  
for on television  
this Christmas  
— page 14

Bridge	11	Gardening	11
Chess	11	Out and About	11
Concerts	14	Opera	14
Crossword	12	Radio	14
Dance	14	Shopping	12
Drink	13	Television	14
Eating Out	13	Times Cook	13
Galleries	14	Travel	10

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## TRAVEL 2

## Miles of smiles in sun valley

Cindy Selby goes  
real cross-country  
skiing on the Swiss  
and French borders

Someone suggested we visit a slate mine. In fact, it was M. Neuvicelle, manager of our Hotel Fleur de Neige, who came up with this preposterous scheme just as we were clipping into skis for our first day at the Portes du Soleil, which lead to 12 valleys, 24 peaks, 200 lifts and 400 miles of piste.

Were these to be sacrificed for some gloomy old cave? No. We decided the skiing was far more important.

Our chosen resort, Châtel, is a traditional Savoyard village of wooden chalets. Even when it becomes the target of skiers from nearby Geneva at the weekend, there is no congestion on the slopes since the terrain is vast.

The Portes du Soleil takes its name from the ridge at the heart of a dozen resorts scattered on either side of the Franco-Swiss border between Lake Lemano and Mont Blanc. The resorts have joined up to form the largest linked ski circuit in the world. A single ski-pass gives one access to the whole network.

Skiers can explore a new valley every day and you are constantly zig-zagging over the border between the seven French and five Swiss resorts which make up the chain. It gives a new meaning to the term "cross-country skiing". There are miles of prepared trails with slopes to suit every grade of downhill skier.

On one of our days we were able to ski the broad slopes of Châtel and Super-Châtel (above the tree line) as well as a circuit within the circuit, a 45-mile tour. From Châtel we meandered down to Morgins and Champoussin (Swiss), then up to the panoramic Portes du Soleil ridge. From there, an easy piste leads down to Les Crosets. Then it was on to the Chavanette, better known as the Wall, a formidable piste reaching down from the highest peak in the region. The skiing is terrific for experts; terrifying for anyone else. Intermediates, however, can bypass the Wall and

continue on the inner circuit to the modern resort of Avoriaz and on to Châtel.

Skiers cannot rely on adequate snow in December or April; and even in March the bottoms of the runs can be mushy. At 4,000 to 7,743 feet it is fairly low and the skiing season is therefore limited.

The major bonus is the giant and varied terrain but Châtel, in particular, has further attractions. Being French it is slightly cheaper than the Swiss resorts. Being old it has pleasing architecture and the ambience of a proper village.

Accommodation in Châtel is in hotels or apartments. The resort is ideal for families since it has a ski-kindergarten

for 3 to 8-year-olds and even a nursery for babies. Beginners, young and old, will find the ski instructors competent and caring. The Châtel ski school assembles on the nursery slope right by the Hotel Fleur de Neige. One can ski back here, too, at the end of the day. The hotel has much to recommend it: a convenient location; old-fashioned charm (log fires, wooden shutters); and fine cuisine, a sharp but welcome contrast to the stinky world of alpine resorts and ski.

Global organize skiing holidays to Châtel, Champoussin and Avoriaz. A week, half-board, at the Hotel Fleur de Neige costs from £244 in January to £242 in February. Châtel apartments cost £137-£214 a week, £167-£267 a fortnight. Prices include flights and transfers. Ski Global, 26 Elmfield Road, Bromley, Kent (01-464 3552).

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Many museums and art galleries run special events for children of all ages throughout the Christmas holidays, as do some theatres and civic or community centres. Facilities vary from region to region, with large cities generally providing a wider variety of entertainments. It is always worth checking to see what is available in your area with local education departments, libraries, press and local radio stations. JUDY FROSHAUG gives a guide to what's on

**ROYAL SCOTCH MUSEUM:** Art competition for children under 16 - paper, pencil and rubber provided. Subjects: anything the children wish to draw in the collections. Also film shows including *The Railway Children* and *Tales of Beatrix Potter*. Royal Scottish Museum, Chamber Street, Edinburgh (031 2257534). Competition Dec 27-30, weekdays 10am-5pm, Sunday 2pm-5pm, and at the museum in Queen Street at the same hours, Dec 27-31. Film shows in Chambers Street, Dec 29, 30, 31, Jan 5, 6, 2pm. All events free.

**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES:** Children's workshop with more than 100 different exhibitions from the permanent collection to "discover" including mining tools, stone age implements and pottery, animals and botanical specimens. Cathays Park, Cardiff, South Glamorgan (0222 387951). Today-Jan 5 except Dec 24, 25, 26, Jan 1, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30pm-5pm. Free.

**MANCHESTER CITY ART GALLERY:** Gallery Gallop: A Christmas Cavalcade of Horses is a holiday activity linked to the Alfred Munnings exhibition, for 15-year-olds. Younger children make their own hobby horses, older children may sculpt. Golden Slippers - Cinderella's Footprints is a holiday activity linked to the current exhibition, *Clothing the Extremities*, with an opportunity to look at the footwear of four centuries and decorate your own pair of shoes. Gallery Gallop at the Athlone Hotel, Princess Street (0161 236 9422 Ext 220). Today 10am-12.30pm, 2pm-4.30pm; Golden Slippers, at the Gallery of English Costume, Platt Hall (0161 236 9283). Dec 22, 23, 10am-3.30pm.

**WALKER ART GALLERY:** Children's quiz with which to tour the gallery entitled *The 12 Days of Christmas*. William Brown Street, Liverpool (051 227 5334). Dec 22-Jan 3, Mon-Sat 12.30pm-4.30pm. Free.

**LIVERPOOL MUSEUM:** Anglo-Saxon activities for 8-11 year olds with dressing-up sessions and workshops - beads, brooches, warrior helmets - and quiz and drawing sheets. William Brown Street, Liverpool (051 207 0001). Dec 30, Jan 2, 5, 10.30am-12.15pm, 1pm-3.45pm. Free.

**BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY:** Oregami Christmas tree decoration workshops for all the family. Dec 22, 23, 10.30am-12.30 and 2pm-4pm. A quiz Look for Faces and Figures throughout the holiday. Hand-bell ringers today at 1pm in the Edwardian Tea Room and on Dec 23, 2.30pm, a Chinese Magic Lantern Show in the Council Chamber. Birmingham (021 235 2639). Normal museum opening Dec 22-30, weekdays 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm. All events free.

**CHRISTMAS CIRCUS:** Gerry Cottle and Austen Brothers combine for a show in the giant 12-pole tent, seating more than 2,000 people, with ring, zoo and caravans all under cover. Battersea Park Big Top, Hippodrome (01-874 8440). Preview Wed, opens Fri. Matinee and evening. Until Jan 10.

**NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY:** Quiz sheet - Understanding Portraits: The Killgrew Test plus a series of drama workshops entitled *Portrait in which body language - how and why people posed for their portraits - is explored and re-enacted*. St Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (01-930 1552). Free quiz, until Jan 5. Poster workshops for 11-16 year olds Dec 21, 22, 23, 2pm-3.30pm. For 16-18 year olds, Jan 2, 3, 4, 2pm-3.30pm. Tickets free but must be pre-booked via an a.s.e. with name, address, age and preferred dates, to the Secretary's Office, National Portrait Gallery.

**MUSEUM OF LONDON:** Programme of children's events and family sessions to coincide with the current exhibition of dolls, Hello Dolls.



Ice and a slice of clown capers: *The Snowman* (top) at the Barbican and circus world entertainment in Battersea park

This includes story-telling sessions, practical workshops for dressing up and paper dolls and on Jan 4 ballet workshops, learning steps from *Coppelia* with members of the Sadler's Wells Ballet Company, followed by a performance. London Wall, London EC2 (01-600 3699 ext 200). Jan 3-11.

**NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM:** Christmas Planarium shows - The Stars at Christmas and Exploring the Planets. Suitable all ages. Greenwich, London SE10 (01-858 4422). Dec 29, 30, 31, Jan 2, Stars at 2.30pm, Exploring at 3.30pm. Admission through normal museum entry: adult £1.50, child 50p.

**HAMPTON COURT PALACE:** Four workshops - In date order: Mask making - learn how to sculpt and make latex masks; In the Wardrobe - design and make strange costumes; Creative Interiors - making props, mirrors, screens and chandeliers; Grand Exteriors - making

scenery, chimneys columns. On Location - culmination of week's activities with rehearsals and show. East Molesey, Surrey (01-977 8441). Dec 29, 30, 31, Jan 2, 3, 10am-1pm and 2pm-4pm each day. Entrance by normal admission. Adult 50p, child 25p.

**NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM:** For children and families, gallery trails for the permanent exhibitions plus *Only a Scrap of Paper?* - an activity sheet showing how to "age" a map and do old fashioned writing, related to a display of historical documents; and an action sheet related to the current *Raiders* exhibition plus a computer on which to test your knowledge or simulate a commando raid. Royal Hospital Road, London, SW3 (01-730 0717). Throughout holidays Mon-Sat 10am-3.30pm, Sun 2pm-5.30pm.

**KENSINGTON PALACE STATE APARTMENTS:** Different events over four days include an opportunity to try on

Victorian Court dress and discover its history, play traditional party games, animal mask and face painting, demonstration of 17th-century harpsichord music, treasure hunt, making board games and a Victorian optical toy. Kensington Gardens, W8 (01-937 8561). Dec 29, 30, 31, Jan 2. Morning sessions 10am-1pm, afternoon 2pm-4pm. Entrance to the events by normal admission: Adult £2.50, child £1.

**NATIONAL GALLERY:** Christmas quiz - *Fiery Tales* - looks at candles, bonfires, flaming torches and other fiery elements in the gallery's paintings. Meet the artist sessions with Paolo Uccello, alias artist and art historian James Heard, discussing Uccello's "The Battle of San Romano" painted in Florence in the mid-15th century. Suitable for 7-14 year olds. Trafalgar Square, London, WC2 (01-839 3321). Quiz today-Jan 5. Meet the Artist, Dec 29, 30, 31, Jan 2 at 2.30pm, Dec 3, 11.30am and 2.30pm. Admission free. Tickets available 30 minutes before each performance outside the Trafalgar Square Theatre.

**BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM OF CHILDHOOD:** Story-telling sessions and workshops based on making Christmas decorations and sweets. Punch and Judy Show on Dec 27, 2.30pm. Cambridge Heath Road, London, E2 (01-980 2416). Dec 22, 23, 29, 30, 31, Jan 3. Mornings from 11am. Free.

**THE IVYHUGH REQUEST:** Christmas entertainment for children and families includes a Christmas quiz - worksheets and puzzles based on the paintings and the house and a dramatic entertainment - *Emma: Art and nature's Child* - centred round the two portraits of Lady Hamilton in the permanent collection. Kenwood, Hampstead Lane, London, NW3 (01-438 1288). Dec 29, 30, 31, Jan 2, 3. Programme repeats daily with quiz 10.30am-12.30pm, drama 2pm-3.30pm. Free.

**HORNIMAN MUSEUM:** Art and craft workshops for children aged eight and over, each with a different theme. Subjects, in date order, are: screen printing, Christmas tree decorating, Guatemalan weaving, Indian embroidery, quilt design, printed calendars, clay calendars, Indian clay designs, plus a family clown/circus workshop for parents and/or children aged 8-12.

London Road, Forest Hill, London, SE23 (01-659 2338). Dec 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, 31, Jan 3, 11am-12.30pm. Adult £1, child 50p. Pre-book.

**TATE GALLERY:** Christmas Tree Guessing Game with prizes. Lassing game by Laurence Bradbury - *Prodigies in Paint* - explaining how famous artists painted when young. Suitable for 8-13 year olds. Two gallery tours: *Fact and Fantasy*, for 13 year olds and under - comparing representations and "real life" paintings with those of the imagination; *Seeing the Light* - for 8-13 year olds - looks at different depictions of light. Millbank, London, SW1 (01-821 1313). Guessing Game today-Jan 2. Lecture Dec 29, 11.30am. *Fact and Fantasy* - Dec 30, Jan 2, 11.30am - meet in the Rotunda. *Seeing the Light* - Dec 31, Jan 5, 7, 11.30am. All events free.

**VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM:** Victorian Christmas celebration with ballads, carols, brass band, music hall, pantomimes, games and a visit from Santa Claus. Cromwell Road, London, SW7 (01-589 6371). Tomorrow, 3pm. Adult £2, child free.

**SCIENCE MUSEUM:** Wizards of Steam - a series of demonstrations showing how concepts of steam were put into practice with results that changed the world. Suitable for children aged eight and over. South Kensington, London, SW7 (01-589 3458). Dec 29, 30, 31, Jan 2, 3, 3pm each day. Tickets free but must be obtained in advance from the Information Office.

**BARBICAN CENTRE:** Children's Christmas party with films and live entertainment today, 11am and 2.30pm - no adults admitted. *The Snowman* and *Saint-Saens's Carnival of the Animals* with Howard Blake and Bernard Cribbens on Dec 22, 2pm, Dec 30, 3pm. Adults £5.50, £7.50, under £5 £3.50. *Fantasia* 87, a musical entertainment with Ann Rachlin, Jan 1, 3pm. Adult £5.50, child £3.50. *Teddy Bear concert*, Jan 2-4, 3pm. Tickets £5.50, £4.50.

**COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE:** *Anansi and the Sky God* - Caribbean story-telling with music, dance and plenty of audience participation. Kensington High Street, London, W8 (01-603 4535). Dec 29-Jan 4 except Jan 1, Mon-Sat 11.30am and 2.30pm, Sun 2.30pm and 3.45pm. Free.

## IN THE GARDEN



Blue spruce: like most Christmas trees it is much happier outside in its natural habitat

## Top shots for the pot

I would not be so dismal as to criticize the Great Norwegian Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square or those which have become the focus of seasonal celebrations in towns and villages all over the country. Nonetheless, it seems a shame that we unwittingly kill hundreds of thousands of juvenile trees each Christmas. The Norway spruce, which is the commonest Christmas tree, grows to a splendid mature height of 150 foot in its natural, cold, mountain conditions.

The needle drop, which is so irritating to the householder, represents a great trauma for a little tree brought inside to the hot conditions of our living rooms as it tries desperately to prevent moisture loss. Even if you have taken all possible precautions - choosing a tree with roots, acclimatizing it gradually to indoor conditions, and keeping it well-watered - it will never be really happy. Sadly, this is also true for the other kinds of trees on the market for Christmas - such as black spruce, blue spruce, Nordmann fir and Serbian spruce. Incidentally, anti-desiccant sprays were found

Francesca Greenoak gives some tips on choosing and caring for Christmas trees

not to have any significant effect in the initial trials carried out by *Which?* magazine. One of the best Christmas trees I have seen is the Chinese weeping cypress, *Cupressus flaccida*, whose juvenile foliage is a softly delicate blue-green. It gained popularity with the Victorians as an ornamental houseplant at about the same time as the passion for Christmas trees was spreading. Not hardy out of doors, it is unbothered by root restriction and will grow healthily in a pot for years with adequate watering and a standard liquid feed. All my recent inquiries, however, have drawn a blank and I have to conclude that it is now no longer available in Britain.

Some nurserymen recommended instead the Monterey cypress, *Cupressus macrocarpa*, which has yellowy-green foliage. This hardy tree does fairly well if it

can be outdoors for most of the year and the pot brought inside only for two to three weeks.

A particularly beautiful conifer is the Japanese cedar *Cryptomeria japonica*, which comes in dwarf varieties like *Elegans Nana* and grow only to about three feet. It has the most delicate feathery foliage which turns red-bronze in winter. It is so pretty it hardly needs decoration, and lights and trinkets should be lifted off now and again so that the foliage can be mist-sprayed (especially if it shows signs of dryness or shrivelling). Buy pot-grown plants about two foot high and keep them outdoors for most of the year, bringing them inside to a relatively cool spot. A good way to avoid drying-out for any of these trees is to place the container in a pot of damp gravel and water from below.

If you buy a Christmas poinsettia, *Euphorbia pulcherrima*, with its rich red flower-like bracts, choose your specimen from an indoor display and take great care it doesn't catch a chill on the way home by covering it with a plastic bag. Don't ignore your regular indoor houseplants.

For traditionalists, the Kissing Bough is an attractive old English Christmas decoration. This consists of two intersecting hoops of wood or wire which you bind with evergreens such as holly and ivy, and decorate. The most important feature is a spray of mistletoe hung in the centre.

The correct telephone number for Sandvik, mentioned last week, is 021 550 4700.

## CHESS

## Fading fortunes of a tired champion

Will Karpov win his Candidates' match with Sokolov early in 1987? On paper, the former world champion must be the clear favourite, but after the exertions of his latest title match, the set-back at Tilburg and the Dubai Olympiad, Karpov is beginning to look exhausted.

A poll of Grandmasters at Dusseldorf revealed a few who favoured the chances of the relatively inexperienced Sokolov. This is the kind of game which is currently causing headaches for Karpov supporters.

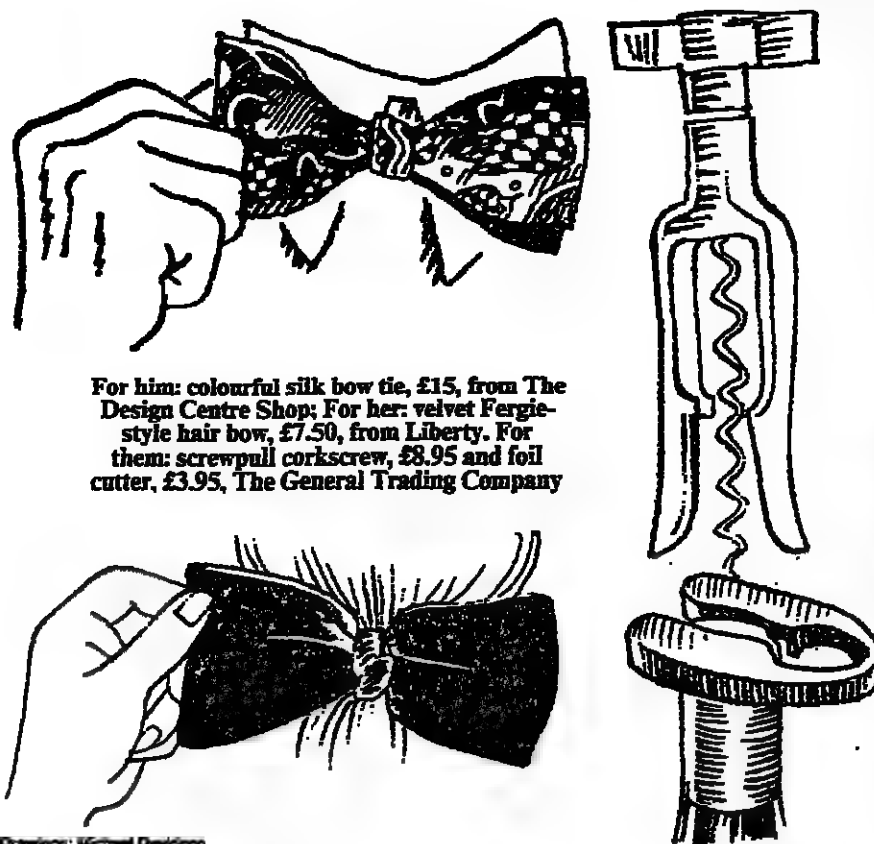
White: Ljubojevic; Black: Karpov. Ruy Lopez, Yugoslavia v USSR, Dubai Olympiad 1986

Hardly ever seen. Normal is 9 h3 followed by d4. 11 Qxd3 12 Re2 13 Bb2 14 Bc3 15 Nc3 16 Nf3 17 Bg2 18 Bb2 19 Bc3 20 Bb2 21 Bc3 22 Bb2 23 Bc3 24 Bb2 25 Bc3 26 Bb2 27 Bc3 28 Bb2 29 Bc3 30 Bb2 31 Bc3 32 Bb2 33 Bc3 34 Bb2 35 Bc3 36 Bb2 37 Bc3 38 Bb2 39 Bc3 40 Bb2 41 Bc3 42 Bb2 43 Bc3 44 Bb2 45 Bc3 46 Bb2 47 Bc3 48 Bb2 49 Bc3 50 Bb2 51 Bc3 52 Bb2 53 Bc3 54 Bb2 55 Bc3 56 Bb2 57 Bc3 58 Bb2 59 Bc3 60 Bb2 61 Bc3 62 Bb2 63 Bc3 64 Bb2 65 Bc3 66 Bb2 67 Bc3 68 Bb2 69 Bc3 70 Bb2 71 Bc3 72 Bb2 73 Bc3 74 Bb2 75 Bc3 76 Bb2 77 Bc3 78 Bb2 79 Bc3 80 Bb2 81 Bc3 82 Bb2 83 Bc3 84 Bb2 85 Bc3 86 Bb2 87 Bc3 88 Bb2 89 Bc3 90 Bb2 91 Bc3 92 Bb2 93 Bc3 94 Bb2 95 Bc3 96 Bb2 97 Bc3 98 Bb2 99 Bc3 100 Bb2 101 Bc3 102 Bb2 103 Bc3 104 Bb2 105 Bc3 106 Bb2 107 Bc3 108 Bb2 109 Bc3 110 Bb2 111 Bc3 112 Bb2 113 Bc3 114 Bb2 115 Bc3 116 Bb2 117 Bc3 118 Bb2 119 Bc3 120 Bb2 121 Bc3 122 Bb2 123 Bc3 124 Bb2 125 Bc3 126 Bb2 127 Bc3 128 Bb2 129 Bc3 130 Bb2 131 Bc3 132 Bb2 133 Bc3 134 Bb2 135 Bc3 136 Bb2 137 Bc3 138 Bb2 139 Bc3 140 Bb2 141 Bc3 142 Bb2 143 Bc3 144 Bb2 145 Bc3 146 Bb2 147 Bc3 148 Bb2 149 Bc3 150 Bb2 151 Bc3 152 Bb2 153 Bc3 154 Bb2 155 Bc3 156 Bb2 157 Bc3 158 Bb2 159 Bc3 160 Bb2 161 Bc3 162 Bb2 163 Bc3 164 Bb2 165 Bc3 166 Bb2 167 Bc3 168 Bb2 169 Bc3 170 Bb2 171 Bc3 172 Bb2 173 Bc3 174 Bb2 175 Bc3 176 Bb2 177 Bc3 178 Bb2 179 Bc3 180 Bb2 181 Bc3 182 Bb2 183 Bc3 184 Bb2 185 Bc3 186 Bb2 187 Bc3 188 Bb2 189 Bc3 190 Bb2 191 Bc3 192 Bb2 193 Bc3 194 Bb2 195 Bc3 196 Bb2 197 Bc3 198 Bb2 199 Bc3 200 Bb2 201 Bc3 202 Bb2 203 Bc3 204 Bb2 205 Bc3 206 Bb2 207 Bc3 208 Bb2 209 Bc3 210 Bb2 211 Bc3 212 Bb2 213 Bc3 214 Bb2 215 Bc3 216 Bb2 217 Bc3 218 Bb2 219 Bc3 220 Bb2 221 Bc3 222 Bb2 223 Bc3 224 Bb2 225 Bc3 226 Bb2 227 Bc3 228 Bb2 229 Bc3 230 Bb2 231 Bc3 232 Bb2 233 Bc3 234 Bb2 235 Bc3 236 Bb2 237 Bc3 238 Bb2 239 Bc3 240 Bb2 241 Bc3 242 Bb2 243 Bc3 244 Bb2 245 Bc3 246 Bb2 247 Bc3 248 Bb2 249 Bc3 250 Bb2 251 Bc3 252 Bb2 253 Bc3 254 Bb2 255 Bc3 256 Bb2 257 Bc3 258 Bb2 259 Bc3 260 Bb2 261 Bc3 262 Bb2 263 Bc3 264 Bb2 265 Bc3 266 Bb2 267 Bc3 268 Bb2 269 Bc3 270 Bb2 271 Bc3 272 Bb2 273 Bc3 274 Bb2 275 Bc3 276 Bb2 277 Bc3 278 Bb2 279 Bc3 280 Bb2 281 Bc3 282 Bb2 283 Bc3 284 Bb2 285 Bc3 286 Bb2 287 Bc3 288 Bb2 289 Bc3 290 Bb2 291 Bc3 292 Bb2 293 Bc3 294 Bb2 295 Bc3 296 Bb2 297 Bc3 298 Bb2 299 Bc3 300 Bb2 301 Bc3 302 Bb2 303 Bc3 304 Bb2 305 Bc3 306 Bb2 307 Bc3 308 Bb2 309 Bc3 310 Bb2 311 Bc3 312 Bb2 313 Bc3 314 Bb2 315 B



## LAST-MINUTE SHOPPING

## Stocking

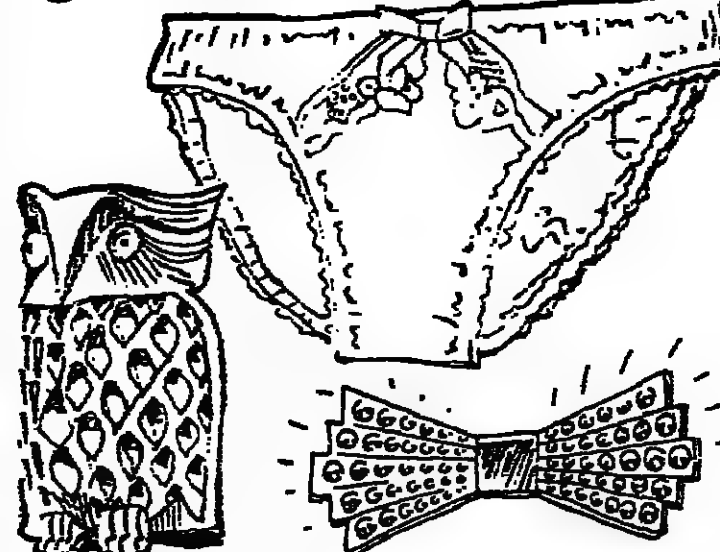


For him: colourful silk bow tie, £15, from The Design Centre Shop; For her: velvet Fergie-style hair bow, £7.50, from Liberty. For them: screwdriver, £8.95 and foil cutter, £3.95, The General Trading Company



Red and silver chocolate dragees, £2.99, and Christmas tea, 85p 100g, The Tea House; Fortnum & Mason quarter-bottle champagne, £3.15, individual Christmas pudding £1.10

## thrillers



For wise men: sandalwood carved owl, £4.85, The General Trading Company. For a little cracker: Orient Express label silk knickers, £15.95, Liberty; Art Deco-style brooches, from £15.90, The General Trading Company

## CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DIRECTORY

Authentic: 42 Shelton Street, WC2; The Design Centre Shop: 28 Haymarket, SW1; Fortnum & Mason: 181 Piccadilly, W1; The General Trading Company: 144 Slocan Street, SW1; Liberty: Regent Street, W1; Neal Street East: 5-7 Neal Street, WC2; Oggetti: 100 Jermyn Street, SW1 and 133 Fulham Road, SW3; Presents: 129 Slocan Street, SW1; The Tea House: 15a Neal Street, WC2; The Watch Gallery: 129 Fulham Road, SW3



Skywatch, £299, Watch Gallery; VW watch, £10.95, Presents; Heuer solar power watch, £27.50, Authentic

**A**sop to entertain excited children while you snatch an extra hour's sleep on Christmas morning? A tantalizing taste of presents to come? Whatever you feel about seasonal stockings, one thing is for sure: they offer a test of ingenuity when it comes to filling them.

No doubt we all follow our own time-honoured traditions in choosing their contents — a tangerine in the toe, perhaps, or bags of golden chocolate coins — and, certainly, sweets, nuts and fruit are easy to buy at the last minute.

But, to track down a handful of quirky trifles, jokes and minor whimsies, it's a question of sifting through the shops to spot these pleasing treasures lurking among the tacky junk and vulgar puns which often pass for mini-gifts.

To save time and personal energy in the last few shopping days before Christmas, we've come up with a stockingful of bright ideas, for adults and children, guaranteed to elicit a giggle.

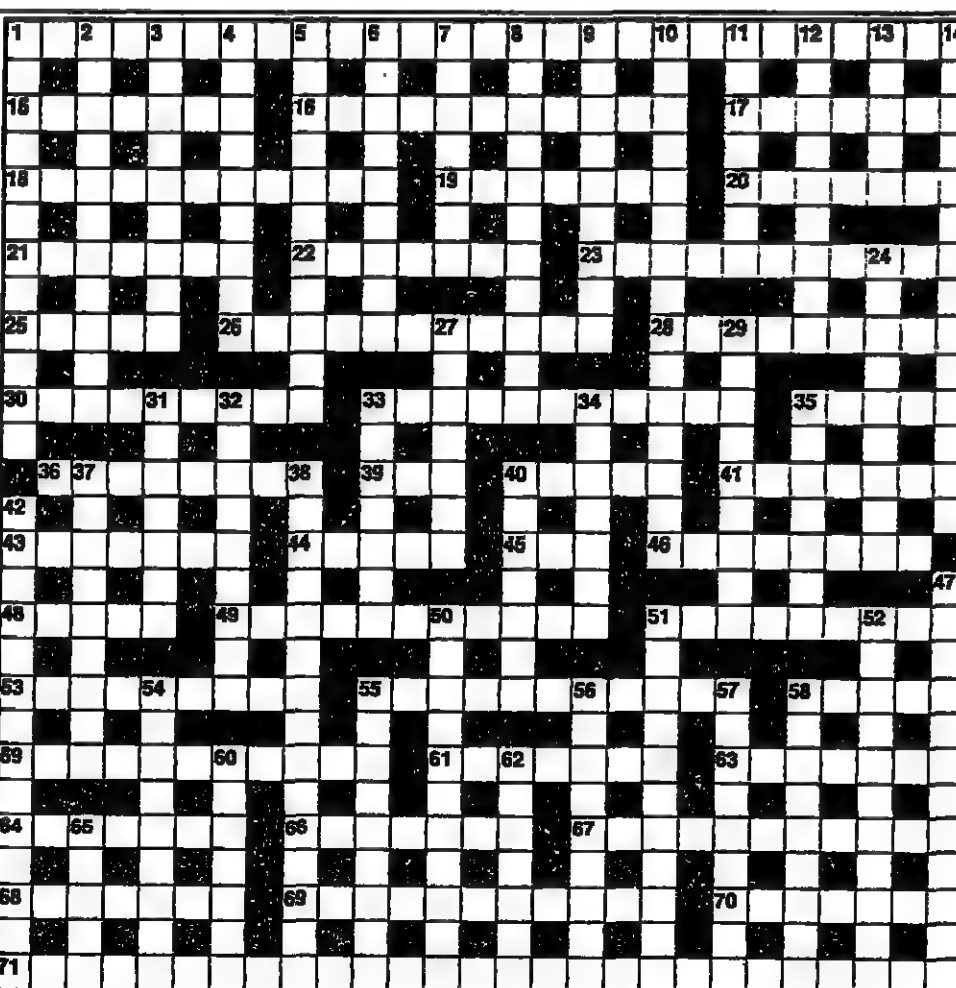


Japanese water flowers, 36p; Vanishing coin trick, £1.85; Fortune telling fish, 2p, all from Neal Street East

## Jumbo Crossword

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Tuesday January 6, 1987. Entries should be addressed to The Times Jumbo Crossword Competition, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday January 10.

- ACROSS**
- Reason given for the vanishing of the Baker (alias "Fitter-my-wig") (3,3,5,3,1,6,3,3)
  - Note terrible curse from which one such saves us? (7)
  - Aristotle so footloose a philosopher (11)
  - One politician learning to beg (7)
  - Notes stream meandering nearest to the rising sun (11)
  - See about Italian river resort in Switzerland (7)
  - Not that these cats show mutual attachment (7)
  - Making four in the test is augury (7)
  - This spoon means the end for Samuel Whiskers (3-4)
  - Father for instance chasing trains, missing one, it's obvious (11)
  - Macbeth with a new title apparently? (5)
  - Start term in revision of the origin of radio (11)
  - A queen's favourite cheese (9)
  - Once keeping in bed, that's following instructions (9)
  - "An arm, clothed in white samite, mystic, wonderful" one employed on state occasions (5-6)
  - Writer twice interrupted by a song of triumph (5)
  - Member of university of no practical importance (8)
  - In Rome I say nothing (3)
  - It's said some lions were so inquisitive (5)
  - The case is altered for schools (7)
  - How to start a journey when in progress in France (7)
  - In the body of the church one appears ingenious (5)
  - Topless style of Horace's work (3)
  - Toys carelessly when eating cheese - it's the judge's condition (8)
  - A chore, transposing words, to define his dance? (5)
  - The fallacious reasoner holds nothing for, say, Madame Blavatsky (11)
  - Queues said to be short for these matters for debate (9)
  - Male composer, it's said, we have to treat roughly (9)
  - Pooh-Bah's added detail was intended so to confirm Ko-Ko's narrative (11)
  - Winter sportsman's high-ball? (5)
  - Edible fungus which the banjo-player plucked (11)
  - "That — was I turn'd into a hart" (T. Night) (7)
  - Writer of books not like the revised version (7)
  - Roused by the tocsin nearly everyone prepared for battle (7)
  - Leaders of early Christian revival in face of condemnation (7)
  - Disturbed by rake, strange creeper (of the highest order?) (6-5)
  - My "Ichabod" confession comes to a dead end (7)
  - Musical girl forbidden to see Japanese drama (2,2,7)
- DOWN**
- Process of brewing involves fine? No matter (12)
  - Revive organization of cruises with funny old Harry (11)
  - Manager at home with needles and thread (9)
  - A minor source gives odds on Curly-lock (9)
  - Set apart for a purpose that's suitable (11)
  - Cornel inflammation from a strike perhaps outside it (9)
  - A large number drawn on a Roman flask (7)
  - Pronounced this to be a type of vehicle (11)
  - Stopper used by a surgeon, but awkwardly, the speaker holds (9)
  - House-builder skilled in every department of work (4,2,3,6)
  - One has some difficulty with one's understatement (7)
  - One from this institution would be safe from the Pirates of Penzance (9)
  - Gem's weight much more than a carat (5)
  - Simplicity of the reasoning that impressed Doyle's doctor (14)
  - Bag outside church or jump on the stage (9)
  - This form of element is nothing to a small shark (7)
  - Tending to show anger about tribal development (9)
  - I entered, in English and French, natives of Asia and America (7)
  - Remarkable about bird put up for the job (9)
  - Coin, second kind (7)
  - Distinguished some of them in entertainment (7)
  - Musician from an island in hell (7)
  - Schizophrenic state of a volunteer force in frenzied action (9)
  - Alexander's music 5 to close this social function? (10,5)
  - Condition is for and against one in this way (7)
  - With hammers novices can make a power-control contrivance (5-9)
  - Alienation of unusual characters in a science fiction film (12)
  - Divided into sections to find eligible bachelor to dine perhaps (11)
  - American style suit seen on board ship? (7-4)
  - Able to produce nothing indigenous round the Swiss mountain (11)
  - Growth of Times misrepresented in song (9)
  - Far from dim in bars (9)
  - To this butterfly William's house appears a dump (6-3)
  - Her auntie embarrassed to be called such a mammal? (9)
  - One that dips into the cellar on board (4-5)
  - Soldier leads learned cleric always to the huntsman's quarry (3,4)
  - Attendant of Dionysus unless one is mistaken (7)
  - One of those quivering by the Lady of Shalott's river (5)



## Concise Jumbo Crossword

There are no prizes for this crossword. The solution will appear on Saturday December 27

- ACROSS**
- Jane Montgomery Campbell farmers' harvest hymn (2,6,3,6,3,7)
  - Entertainment industry (7)
  - Statement clarifier (11)
  - Without apparent sex (7)
  - Top floor (5,6)
  - Render ineffective (7)
  - Open air cinema (5,2)
  - Grow together (7)
  - Non-Jewish girls (7)
  - Happening in spells (11)
  - Worthless matter (5)
  - Express vocal encouragement (1,5,1,5)
  - Consecrates (9)
  - Giving back (9)
  - Large urban complex (11)
  - Israel/Syria Heights (5)
  - Cider brandy (8)
  - Batsman's score (3)
  - Setback (5)
  - Sets fire to (7)
  - Coming from south (7)
  - Expensive money lending (5)
  - Small ocean (3)
  - Confine (8)
  - Feudal lord (5)
  - Ineffective (11)
  - Complete circle (4,5)
  - Omission (9)
  - Gate guards (11)
  - Gasp (5)
  - State without pleasure (11)
  - Personal belongings (7)
- DOWN**
- Swagger (7)
  - Line walls again (7)
  - Swarm over (7)
  - Substantial quantity (5,6)
  - Red, purple, pink hardy annual (7)
  - Abrupt utterance (11)
  - Fixed habits (3,4)
  - Violent movement opposed to Algerian independence (12,2,1,5,7)
  - Change causing (9)
  - Compulsion (7)
  - Discharge (9)
  - Coin face (7)
  - Gratifying (9)
  - Large tent (7)
  - Ship journey (7)
  - Applicable to group (7)
  - Gravely (9)
  - Impulse (4,2,3,6)
  - Loosen (7)
  - Joshua's trumpet target (5,2,7)
  - Discriminating faculty (5,2,5)
  - Not subterranean (5,6)
  - Not be oneself (4,7)
  - Talk together (11)
  - Fleece (9)
  - Utterly reckless type (9)
  - "Excellent" (9)
  - Drives under water (9)
  - Advocating practical attitude (9)
  - Be superior (7)
  - Windmill rudder sail (7)
  - Crash (5)
- SOLUTION TO NO 1131 (last Saturday's prize concise)**
- ACROSS:** 1 Sacrum 4 Cravat 7 Fury 8 Crocodile 9 Port-Au-Prince 15 Archer 16 Abound 17 Piece of eight 23 Hausfrau 24 Rile 25 Recess 26 Prayer
- DOWN:** 1 Sift 2 Cartouche 3 Mecca 4 Creep 5 Assai 6 Aztec 10 Theme 11 Rabbi 12 Naughtily 13 Ends 14 Palp 18 Irate 19 Caste 20 Ogres 21 Equip 22 Jeer 25 Gasp (5)
- The winners of prize concise No 1131 are: Mrs J. Wilson, Underhill Road, Cleland, Tyne and Wear; Peter L. Ogier, Les Hubits, St. Martin, Guernsey, Channel Islands.

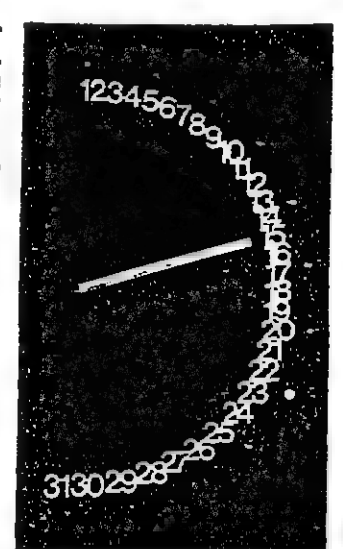
- SOLUTION TO NO 1136 (yesterday's concise crossword)**
- ACROSS:** 1 Tassel 4 Morbid 7 Gybe 8 Submerge 9 Theatre 11 Sites 12 Spitting image 15 Shown 16 Crevise 20 Bradshaw 21 Hill 22 Really 23 Youder
- DOWN:** 1 Tagetes 2 Sable 3 Laser 4 Mobs 5 Biretta 6 Dregs 10 Titan 11 Shire 13 Ikebana 14 Elector 15 Sober 17 Rowdy 18 Illud 19 Ahoy

## In calendars are bang up to date

It had to happen. Designer calendars have hit the home. Once a blueprint for the essential minimalist accessory in hi-tech offices, stark black and white calendars — with perhaps the odd splodge of designer red — are the prevailing style when it comes to date-checking in the kitchen, home office and living room these days.

In fashionable black and red, Oggetti's 2½ foot-high wall-hung metal model, £43.25, looks more like a clock than a reminder of the date. The red arm twists round in a half moon to give the date while a magnetic red blob marks the relevant month.

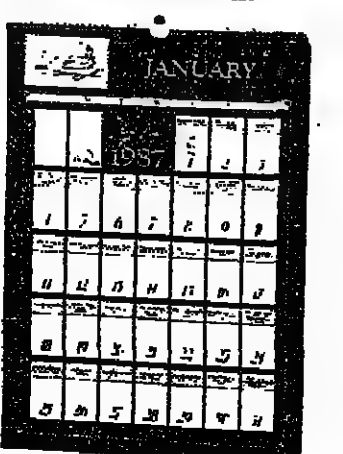
Another Oggetti agenda, £24.60, screams out the date with numbers sizeable enough for the most myopic. A barely-readable list in the corner of



Oggetti's 2½ ft high wall-hung Meridiana clock-style metal calendar costs £43.25

Daily Trivia calendar, £2.99 from Paperchase, with a jumble of monthly "not-a-lot-of-people-know-that" information and the Trivial Pursuit calendar, £2.99 from W. H. Smith.

But perhaps some of the most visually appealing calendars in the current crop are the pictorial ones which seem to have more in common with glossy illustrated hardback books. Particularly striking are three from Liberty: a Guatemala Rainbow Calendar, £11.95, showing the traditional brightly-coloured handwoven costumes of Mayan culture; Bruno Zehnder's delightful photographs from the Antarctic in the Penguin Calendar, £7.95; and the Orchild Calendar, £5.95, with its spectacular photographs of exotic blooms.



Trivial Pursuit calendar, £2.99, with a quiz question each day, from branches of W. H. Smith

**Wisden's Cricket Diary**

The telephone number for Wisden's Cricket Diary, available from Save the Children, featured on December 6, is 01-703 5400

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Another Prize Jumbo Crossword will appear on January 1



## DRINK

Just before you visit your local wine retailer, Jane MacQuitty offers a guide to reds and whites for Christmas celebrations

# The best of the chain gangs on trial

Christmas comes but once a year and with it the opportunity for us all to forget the bank balance and to splash out on a starry bottle or two of the finest wines the world produces.

Finding these costly and usually classic charmers is generally much easier than tracking down good wines at cheap prices. But this year I wanted to make certain that everyone had the opportunity to buy *The Times*' best Christmas bottles. So I asked the largest of wine retailers in the country (those with at least 200 licensed branches or more) to put forward a top Christmas white and Christmas red.

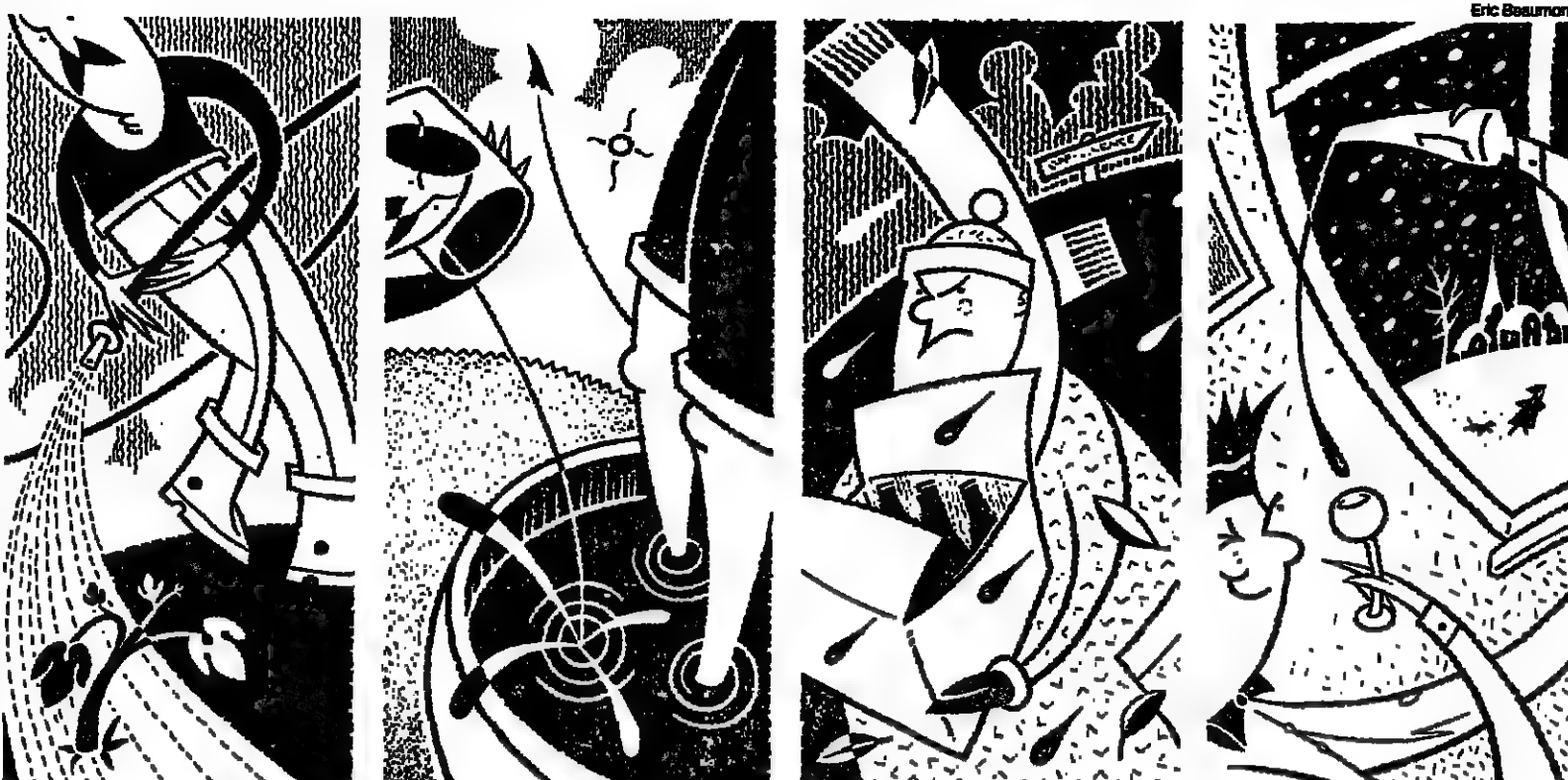
Each retailer was told that the wines had to suit seasonal food (but not necessarily just turkey), be priced under £10 a bottle and that value for money would be taken into account. In addition I stressed that whatever wines the retailers put forward they would have to be widely available; 10 cases of Chateau Christmas sold via one branch would not be a suitable contender.

Sadly despite the strength and importance of their festive sales few wine buyers I spoke to rose to meet this Christmas challenge.

Joining me (JMQ) in this blind Christmas tasting were John Higgins (JH) Arts Editor of *The Times*, Robin Young (RY) also from *The Times* and Master of Wine Adam Briscoe (AB) from the Burgundy specialists Domaine Direct.

We all found this Christmas tasting a disappointment. It was especially worrying, too, to note that few buyers were prepared to put forward wines which cost more than £6 a bottle and only two went close to the £10 limit.

Yet surely at Christmas time we all deserve a treat or two? Or is it just that all those pricey and prestigious wines that appear on off-licence lists are only ever available in infuriatingly small quantities? Never mind, all the wines which fall into our "Top of the Tree" and "Christmas Crackers" categories will certainly help to ensure that your Christmas celebrations are a success.



1981 Torres Gran Coronas, Penedes. Threshers £4.99. This "sunburnt spicy hefty peppery red" (JMQ) will be at its best only with the chunkiest Christmas foods. AB was kinder noting this "ripe attractive blockbuster will keep the cold out". As was RY: "Good Christmas supper party red" and JH: "Easy drinking".

1981 Marques de Murrieta, Etxepare, Ygay, Roberts & Cooper £3.99. Again the "warm spicy sunburnt plum jam like nose and taste" (JMQ) of this Spanish red may not be everyone's idea of the perfect festive wine but AB thought it would be "good with game" and JH "excellent nose; I'd be happy with this".

## BORDERLINE

Franzia Cabernet Sauvignon, Victoria Wine £2.99. A cheap price, but sadly a taste to match: "Herbaceous grassy nose but a palate that is too sweet, jammy and congested for Christmas" noted JMQ. No one else disagreed: "Oversweet, not much backbone or tannin" (AB) and RY: "Sweetened up too much".

1981 Chateau de Pez, Saint Estephe, Peter Dominie £7.25. A disappointment considering the good name of this chateau. JMQ thought it had a "not unpleasant light truffly nose and taste but was too thin for Christmas drinking"; AB similarly noted "Mushroomy nose, rather loose knit". JH was the harshest critic: "Doggish nose... undistinguished".

## FESTIVE FAILURES

Beaujolais, Alexandre Silvestre, Presto £2.99. Not a bottle any of us would want to face on Christmas Day: "Acidic, cooked light strawberry/raspberry Beaujolais fruit" wrote JMQ; "Rather lacking in charm and fruit" (AB); "Anaemic, acidic" (JH).

1981 Chateau Lacheyne, cru bourgeois, Haut Medoc, Augustus Barnett £5.49. This "aggressive, rough farmyardy stuff" (JMQ) would bring little joy at Christmas. RY felt it was "undistinguished rather woody claret" and JH "musty".

## WHITE WINES

## TOP OF THE TREE

1985 Sancerre, Domaine des Trois Pressoirs, Pierre et Etienne Riffault, Threshers £5.95. An ultra-stylish Sancerre that won hands down in the whites: "Lovely zesty chalky gooseberry-green Sancerre class... excellent as a Christmas aperitif and with the first course" (JMQ); "Classic Sauvignon... superb, bags of fruit" (AB); "enjoyable aperitif-style Sancerre" (RY). An unexpected Thresher's triumph.

## CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

1985 Venegazzu Pinot Grigio, Come Loredan, Augustus Barnett £3.49. Italy's only offering here makes a good inexpensive white Christmas all-rounder. JMQ enjoyed its "zippy flowery herbaceous smell and barleysugar like taste". RY similarly picked up "a boiled sweets note" finding it "refreshing, invigorating and flavourful".

## 1985 Montana Chardonnay, Oddbins and Gough Bros £3.99

New Zealand's Chardonnays have come of age as this south island white demonstrated: "Classy pineapple-like Chardonnay nose plus a fresh leafy-spry New Zealand palate" (JMQ); "Appealing warm toasty flavour" (RY); "honeyed nose agreeable with the turkey" (JH); "ripe peachy nose, oaky tones... a Chardonnay treat" (AB).

1982 Sainsbury's Blanc de Blancs Brut Vintage Champagne, Linard Gontier, Sainsbury's £3.95. Sainsbury's new own-label vintage bubbly had an "attractive flowery-pineapple Chardonnay scent but a young sharpish taste" (JMQ) and was "light and green in flavour" (RY). As AB and JH put it this youthful fizz would make either "a good bottle to start Christmas Day" or else would "work well as a pre-Christmas lunch drink".

## CHRISTMAS CHEER

1985 Domaine de Cabrières, Chateau-neuf-du-Pape, Louis

## Amaud, Peter Dominie £5.52

A useful Christmas runner-up blessed with a "fresh green zesty herbaceous bouquet and taste... again a lively Christmas Day aperitif and first course wine" (JMQ). RY thought its "pleasant lemon-buttery flavour" would come in useful with the Christmas buffet as did AB: "Good weight for Christmas food".

1985 White Burgundy, Groupement de Producteurs de Ligny-St-Gengoul-de-Scize, Marica & Spencer £4.99. "A good fruity Christmas aperitif but too soft for the spiciest festive fare" queried JMQ as did RY "could work with starter"; AB similarly noted "soft fruit, soft palate". All in all a useful Christmas aperitif white without the guts or depth to cope either with spicy stuffings or meats.

## BORDERLINE

1985 Chateau de la Casemichère, Muscadet de Sevre et Maine, Denon, Bahaud, Victoria Wine £3.59. Given the cold weather at Christmas time Muscadet is not perhaps the most

## appropriate of white wines.

However this "palatable flowery-apple Muscadet" (JMQ) would probably go down well with a fishy first course. RY found it "a bit aggressive for the season of goodwill" and both JH and AB thought it "lacked character".

1985 Sancerre, Vacheron, Tesco £5.49. There was a world of difference between this and our Top of the Tree Sancerre: JMQ noted "green chalky Sancerre nose but dull and sweet with it"; AB: "Well-made but lacks exuberance" RY: "Dull, flat, neutral" and JH "Very light in colour and taste".

## FESTIVE FAILURES

1985 Chateau d'Avril, Chardonnay, Vin de Pays du Maine & Loire, Roberts & Cooper £2.29. "Water-white colour, elegant smoky nose but dull dirty taste" was JMQ's verdict here. Everyone else agreed: "Unpleasant really crab dry wine" (RY); "Very ordinary" (AB); JH spotted it as "very young Loire" adding "difficult

## to know when and what to drink this with".

1984 Chablis Premier Cru, Vaillons, A. Bichot, Unwin £9.95. Chablis should be truly ashamed of itself; everyone gave this pricey premier cru their lowest mark: JMQ noted "Wet straw and wet dog"; RY: "Not much pleasure in this"; JH: "Dreadful - wouldn't have it in the house" and AB, who detected its Chablis source, "Earthy animal-like nose".

## RED WINES

1984 Chateau-neuf-du-Pape, Les Arnevettes, J.R. Guio, Tesco £5.29. This "very classy" red Chateau-neuf with "delicious

## right spicy Syrah fruit and the backbone to cope with the festive fare".

1984 Chateau-neuf-du-Pape, Les Arnevettes, J.R. Guio, Tesco £5.29. This "very classy" red Chateau-neuf with "delicious

## CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

1974 Chateau-neuf-du-Pape, Domaine Guy Mauret, Unwin £8.19. Another red Chateau-neuf with "delicious ripe spicy-smoky cinnamon fruit and backbone, oak and depth" (JMQ). RY, like AB, enjoyed its "rich gamey fruit and oak" but like JH thought it "possibly a bit austere for some tastes". Its distinctive mature style does not have the universal appeal of Tesco's Chateau-neuf.

1982 Orlando R F Cabernet Sauvignon, G Cramp & Sons, Oddbins and Gough Bros £3.99. Everyone at the Christmas table will enjoy the "sweet

reductive cassis fruit and rich New World charm" (JMQ) of the Australian red. Its ripe overt fruit will make a good marriage either with turkey or other festive fare, accompanied by fruit sauces or stuffings.

1981 Chateau Maucouloux, Moulis, Dourthe Freres, Sainsbury's £5.95. JMQ wasn't very keen on this one finding its "grassy-fruity nose and taste a shade dull and neutral". But everyone else loved it: "Appetising fruity claret" noted RY; "Pleasant rich blackcurrant and cigar-box tones" AB, and JH: "One of the best".

CHRISTMAS CHEER

1983 Crozes-Hermitage, Cave Cooperative de Vins Fines, Marica & Spencer £3.99. A worthy alternative wine for turkey and all the trimmings this "well made soft juicy blackberry and blackcurrant like wine and finesse and depth too" (JMQ). AB was its biggest fan: "Classic black peppery Syrah nose and blackcurrant fruit".

## EATING OUT

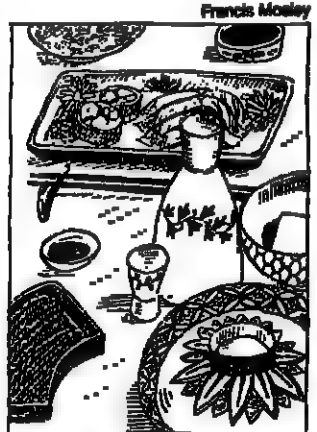
## Raw deals and saké

London's Japanese restaurants, unlike its French or Italian ones, are all of them, dependent on Japanese custom. And their hefty prices are determined by the fact that they are expensive account perks.

Squeezed between a sandwich bar and a minicab outfit, so implausibly theatrical that it might have jumped out of *Mona Lisa*, I found a window with a crimson kimono and a sign saying Gobei.

As in all these places, you glean a piece of scalp disease as you enter, through the pendent swaths of ritual rag. By our table was a Calor heater with leaflets advertising the products of Furusato Foods of Camden. Furusato is evidently a useful outfit. With its supplies and a modicum of nous we can all go Japanese.

I suppose the provenance of the grub doesn't matter as long as it's good. Most of Gobei's "cooking" is all right, though the battered king prawns and veg are of chip-shop greasiness. Sashimi (raw fish) which is the glory of the Japanese



kitchen, although it has more to do with filleting and arty presentation than with cooking. Here comprises: salmon, octopus, turbot, cuttlefish, tuna and a couple of species that the bemused waitress didn't know the Japanese name of, let alone the English. The usual green mustard and soy dressing was just that — the usual, but fine and fiery as ever.

We also ate buckwheat noodles in a sweetish broth, a chicken kebab with a precu-

sor of HP sauce and, another palate-fryer this one, bean curd with ginger sauce. A plate of thinly sliced raw beef that I'd like to have eaten raw was shoved on the table along with a piece of equipment from an under-the-arches garage — two gas burners connected to yet another Calor cylinder. A grill was fitted on the top of the burners and we were invited to grease this piece of metal with a quon of beef fat.

Restaurants are for eating in, kitchens for cooking in. The "breaking down of the barrier" reduces the former to gaming places. The whole point is not to participate in the creation — we all have the address of Furusato Foods. While this boy scout primus-stove stuff was going on, a stream of men had been slipping by. I followed them. Out back, from a room past the lavatories, came the dry rustle of a knot of rattlers. Within, when I peeked, was a mahjong rally — heads down, Chivas Regal everywhere. £50 for two.

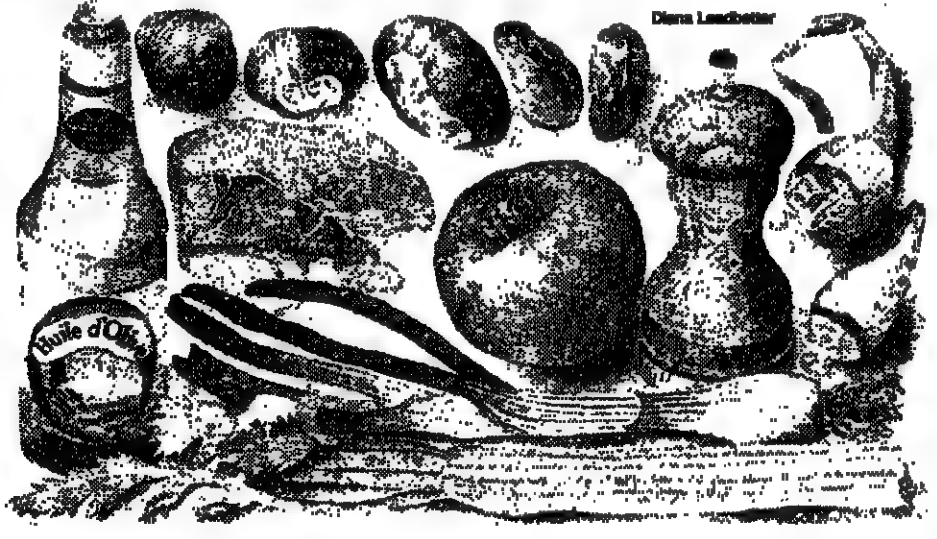
One Two Three is dearer: here we drank only Kirin Beer. The restaurant has dark wicker screens between the tables, greenery here and there and hemispherical lampshades made from the kind of wire that keeps flies from larders. Six pieces, each the size of a domino, of a raw belly of a tuna cost £12; this must be some sort of record. A dish called "various fish" was comprised of scallops, mackerel and spinach perfumed with rice vinegar that was adjudged to lend it the flavour of old towels, but jolly nice old towels of course.

There's an excellent stew of noodles, *aji no moto* (monosodium glutamate), seaweed which must have been fresh cut from a groyne that morning, chicken gizzard, mushroom and fishcake. And the (leanish) belly pork simmered in saké is one of the most succulent meat dishes imaginable. £70 plus for two — and you'll note that the bill has a space for you to write your name and company. If you want to eat like this you must join Sanyo.

Jonathan Meades

Gonbei 151 Kings Cross Road, WC1 (01-278 0619), Mon to Sat 6-10.30pm.  
One Two Three 27 Davies Street, W1 (01-409 0750), Mon to Fri 12-2.30pm and 6.30-11.30pm.

## THE TIMES COOK



## Stuffed with richness

## Talking turkey with

Shona Crawford Poole

Mix the potatoes, bacon, spring onions and chopped celery with a generous seasoning of salt and pepper and use this mixture to stuff the goose. Truss it with string or skewers and prick the skin lightly with a fork or skewer on the legs, back and lower breast to help the fat to run out. Do not puncture the skin over the main breast area because the fat underneath it will be needed to baste the meat.

Set the goose on a rack in a roasting tin and roast it in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6) for 15 minutes. Turn the bird over on to its breast, reduce the temperature to moderate (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) and roast for 1½ hours; then turn it on to its back again and roast it for another 1½ hours — making a total of 3¼ hours' cooking time. Pour off the fat in the roasting pan two or three times.

The goose is cooked when the juices run pale gold. Test with a skewer inserted into the leg close to the body. Rest the bird for at least 10 minutes before carving it.

## Roast turkey with chestnut stuffing

Serves 12 to 14

1 fresh turkey, about 5kg (11lb)

For the stuffing

225g (8oz) pork, lean and fat, finely minced

225g (8oz) minced veal

1 turkey liver

110g (4oz) Parma ham

110g (4oz) shallots

110g (4oz) stoned prunes

1 medium dessert apple

450g (1lb) cooked chestnuts

4 tablespoons olive oil

225g (8oz) fresh breadcrumbs

55g (2oz) freshly grated Parmesan cheese

5 tablespoons dry sherry

¼ nutmeg, grated

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

To baste

110g (4oz) butter, melted

8 tablespoons dry white wine

Put the minced pork and veal in a large bowl. Fry the liver for a moment or two in a tablespoon of oil — just long enough to firm it a little. Chop it finely and add it to the bowl together with the Parma ham, shallots, prunes and apple, all finely chopped. Break up the chestnuts and add them too, then mix all the ingredients lightly together.

Heat the remaining oil and fry the stuffing, in two or three batches, over a medium heat for about 10 minutes. Remove it from the heat and stir in the breadcrumbs, Parmesan, sherry and seasonings. Set aside to cool.

Stuff the turkey with this mixture. Truss it and remember to calculate the cooking time on stuffed weight. Set the turkey on a rack in a shallow roasting tin. Soak a double thickness of butter muslin in the wine. Wrap it out, soak it in the melted butter and drape it over the breast and thighs of the turkey.

Roast in a preheated moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for about four hours, basting it several times. The turkey is cooked when the juices run clear. Test with a skewer inserted into the thickest part of the leg close to the body. Remove and discard the cloth and rest the turkey in a warm place for at least 15 minutes before carving it.

Ferreira: (n) An ancient tradition to celebrate the end of an excellent meal.

Ferreira: (n) A term used to describe a splendid wine cellar.

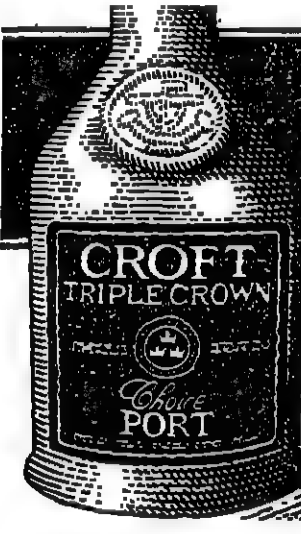
Ferreira: THE PORT WORLD'S BEST KEPT SECRET

Available at Arthur Rankine Wine Warehouse, Oddbins, Ash & Nephew, Gough Brothers, Wines of London, Monmouth, Thurder and selected Sainsbury & W. James stores.



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Display your crown jewels over dinner.



Croft Ports. Appreciated at the finest dinner parties for over three centuries.



## How many Santas are cuddly-wifters?

If the national average is anything to go by, probably about 10%.

But research shows that in ancient civilisations buck-fisted, south-pawed, in other words left-handed people, may have had the upper hand.

Could it, after all, be wrong to be right and right to be left?

Read *The Economist's* 112-page Christmas double issue. Out now. £2.

The Economist



## CHRISTMAS TELEVISION AND RADIO

By Peter Waymark



## FILMS ON TV

**BLACK HARRY:** Shirley MacLaine made her first screen appearance in *The Trouble With Harry* in 1955. Relentlessly teased by the director, Alfred Hitchcock, who insisted on talking to her in Cockney rhyming slang, she had a torrid baptism. The film, a joyous black comedy about a dead body that stubbornly refuses to stay buried, was mysteriously withdrawn for many years and has only recently resurfaced. Look out for John Forsythe, blue-rinsed hero of *Dynasty*, as an abstract painter. ITV, Christmas Eve, 10-11.50pm.



## TELEVISION

**RINKSIDE SEAT:** Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, the ice dance wizards, get their skates on again for *Fire and Ice*. It is a fantasy drama about a prince and princess from opposite worlds who meet and fall in love but find that their passion threatens to destroy them. With choreography by Graeme Murphy, artistic director of the Sydney Dance Company, *Fire and Ice* combines ice dance with ballet, boasts more than 30 spectacular costumes and features music by the ubiquitous Carl Davis. ITV, Boxing Day, 7.30-8.30pm.



## FILMS ON TV

**ENGLISH LESSON:** Julia Walters shot to international stardom as the working-class girl who joins the Open University in Willy Russell's *Educating Rita*. Michael Caine is the disillusioned English professor who becomes her tutor. Released three years ago and being shown on British television for the first time, the film was a huge box-office success and a landmark in the career of its veteran director, Lewis Gilbert, whose credits go back to *Reach For the Sky* in the 1950s. BBC1, Christmas Day, 10.40pm-12.30am.



## TELEVISION

**GREAT DAME:** Peggy Ashcroft may be our greatest living actress but she has not hitherto been noted for her willingness to be interviewed on television. Now, in her 80th year, she makes amends. In conversation with the critic Michael Billington, she reflects on a brilliant career which started at Birmingham Rep in 1926. She recalls her several Jellies, getting racialist letters while acting with Paul Robeson, and away from the stage, playing cricket with Len Hutton. *Dame Peggy* is on Channel 4, Christmas Eve, 9-10.45pm.



## RADIO

**GOON FOREVER:** The Goons — Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers and Harry Secombe — sent a shock wave through British comedy in the 1950s and the memory of their irreverent, anarchic style lingers fondly on. This year five editions of *The Goon Show* which were broadcast overseas but have never been heard in this country were discovered in the BBC Archives and are being unwrapped for Christmas. Meet Eccles, Bloodnok, Gryptotype-Thynne and company on Radio 4, starting on Christmas Day, 12.27-12.55pm.



## TELEVISION

**RIGHT WALLY:** George Cole as Wally, an old man who suffers from loss of memory, in *Day to Remember*, a play about a family gathering for Christmas which skilfully walks the tightrope between comedy and pathos. Ron Cook plays the son-in-law left to cope with Wally's affliction, and Rosemary Leach and Barbara Flynn complete a strong quartet. The script, by the prolific Jack Rosenthal, shrewdly catches the interplay of character and the nuances of banal speech. Channel 4, tomorrow, 9.45-10.45pm.

## TODAY

● ● ● 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (1968): Stanley Kubrick's bold and intelligent excursion into science fiction, with brilliant special effects, which largely dispenses with conventional plotting to emphasise the power of images and ideas. A rich meal, both for the eye and the mind. BBC2, 11.50am-2.05pm.

● ● ● THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (1946): William Wyler's powerfully crafted drama of American servicemen making the painful adjustment to civilian life. Six Oscars included one for the handsomely handsome, Harold Russell. Channel 4, 2-5.05pm.

● ● ● HAROLD LLOYD'S WORLD OF COMEDY (1962): Lloyd himself made the selection of golden moments from his silent and early sound films. An avalanche of brilliantly executed gags from a unique comic talent. BBC2, 2.05-3.40pm.

● ● ● PICCADILLY INCIDENT (1946): Anna Neagle returns from a desert island to find that her husband Michael Wilding has re-married. The first of the "London" films, directed by real husband Herbert Wilcox. Launches a Neagle season. BBC2, 3.40-5.20pm.

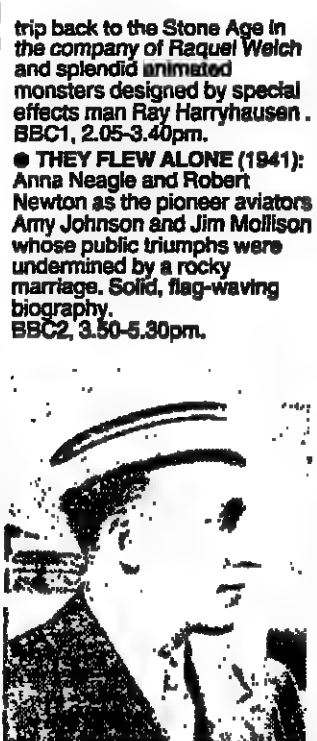
● ● ● OLIVER! (1968): Handsome and lively screen version of Lionel Bart's stage musical, based on *Oliver Twist*, with fetching performances from Ron Moody, Harry Secombe and the young Mark Lester. Veteran Carol Reed directed and won himself an Oscar. BBC1, 5.55-8.15pm.

● ● ● TRADING PLACES (1983): Exuberant, sharp-edged John Landis comedy with poor fellow Eddie Murphy and rich snug Dan Aykroyd swapping roles to settle a bet between two old stockbrokers (Don Ameche and Ralph Bellamy). ITV, 10.15pm-12.25am. *British television premiere.*

● ● ● THE WAGES OF FEAR (1953): French psychological thriller, which wrings every last drop of suspense out of a hazardous journey through Central America with trucks of nitro-glycerine. BBC2, 10.45pm-1.20am.

● ● ● TARZAN, THE APE MAN (1981): Bo Derek as a scantily clad Jane in a good-to-look-at but dramatically empty foray into the African (actually Sri Lankan) jungle, directed by husband John. BBC1, 11.15pm-1.05am.

## The great TV picture show



## STAR SPANGLED RHYTHM

1941 (1979): Said to be the most expensive comedy ever made and notable as Steven Spielberg's one commercial flop. Lots of energy but little wit in a story of Californians going hysterical as the Japanese threaten to invade. BBC2, 7-9pm. *British television premiere.*

## TUESDAY

● ● ● THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (1925): Terrific performance by Lon Chaney as the deformed musician luring the diva to his lair in the Parisian sewers. Stylish and atmospheric, and still the best film version of Gaston Leroux's classic thriller. BBC2, 12.50-2.05pm.

● ● ● THEY FLEW ALONE (1941): Anna Neagle and Robert Newton as the pioneer aviators Amy Johnson and Jim Mollison whose public triumphs were undermined by a rocky marriage. Solid, flag-waving biograpy. BBC2, 3.50-5.30pm.

● ● ● RAISE THE TITANIC (1980): It would have been easier to have lowered the sea said one wag of this lifeless epic which effectively sunk the film career of Lord Lawford. ITV, 1.30-3.35pm.

● ● ● THE JUNGLE BOOK (1942): Colourful but dramatically staid Korda version of the Kipling stories, with Sabu as the boy Mowgli and model animals. BBC1, 3.05-5.05pm.

● ● ● THE GREAT WALTZ (1938): Hollywood goes to Old Vienna for a plush, sugary musical biography of the waltz king, Johann Strauss. Perverse, he is played by a French actor, Fernand Grivot, and another Frenchman, Julien Duvivier, directs. Channel 4, 2.30-4.25pm.

● ● ● YELLOW CANARY (1943): Efficient wartime spy thriller with unusual casting for Anna Neagle as, per the thought, a woman suspected of being sympathetic to the Nazis. BBC2, 4-5.35pm.

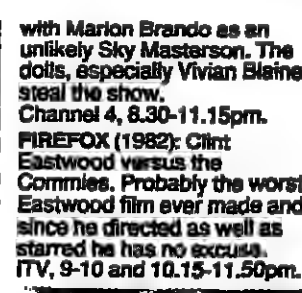
● ● ● IT'S A WONDERFUL WORLD (1939): Madcap comedy with James Stewart as a greenhorn private eye assigned to shadow a millionaire and falling in love with Claudette Colbert. Channel 4, 4.25-6pm.

● ● ● THAT TONGUE OF MINK (1962): Cary Grant as a suave bachelor in amorous pursuit of the virgin Doris Day. Formula plot but with Grant at his stylish best it cannot fail. BBC2, 6.25-8pm.

● ● ● GUYS AND DOLLS (1955): Heavy, studio-bound version of the Damon Runyon musical, with Marion Brand as an unlikely Sky Masterson. The dolls, especially Vivian Blaine, steal the show. Channel 4, 8.30-11.15pm.

● ● ● FIREFOX (1982): Clint Eastwood versus the worst of the worst. Probably the worst Eastwood film ever made and since he directed as well as starred he has no excuse. ITV, 9-10 and 10.15-11.50pm.

Dim the house lights, settle in your seats and tune in to our critical guide to 60 movies playing on television during Christmas week. The ratings system, which should give plenty to argue about, is: ● ● ● not to be missed ● ● highly recommended ● well worth watching



## CHRISTMAS EVE

● ● ● CAMMINA CAMMINA (1983): Ermanno Olmi's highly personal, often idiosyncratic, re-working of the story of the Three Wise Men, vividly shot in rural Italy and performed by a cast of non-professional actors. Channel 4, 11am-1.40pm. *British television premiere.*

● ● ● DR Jekyll and MR Hyde (1920): John Barrymore in flamboyant form as Robert Louis Stevenson's split personality, managing most of his transformations with facial contortions rather than trick effects. BBC2, 12.50-1.50pm.

● ● ● ROB ROY — THE HIGHLAND ROGUE (1933): Richard Todd as the Scottish adventurer in a rapid British production from the Walt Disney studio. ITV, 1.30-3pm (Scottish, Christmas Day, 12.30-2pm).

● ● ● THE WIZARD OF OZ (1939): Judy Garland and chums take to the Yellow Brick Road for an enduring piece of Hollywood magic with marvellous songs and a host of delightful characters — the Witch (Margaret Hamilton), the Scarecrow (Ray Bolger), the Cowardly Lion (Bart Lahr) and the Tin Man (Jack Haley). BBC1, 2.25-4.05pm.

● ● ● THE STRONG MAN (1926): The baby-faced silent comedian Harry Langdon in his best screen role as a First World War soldier in pursuit of a girl girlfriend. Shown in a newly restored print, with music by Carl Davis. Channel 4, 3.30-5pm.

## CHRISTMAS DAY

● ● ● THE PURE HELL OF ST TRINIAN'S (1960): Third in the series about Ronald Searle's awful schoolgirls and the joke is starting to pall. But there is compensation in George Cole's Flash Harry, a spivish forerunner of Arthur Daley. BBC1, 10-11.30am.

● ● ● THE SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON (1959): John Mills leading his shipwrecked family to a new life on a tropical island. Lively, well-made offering from Disney. ITV (except Scottish), 11.40am-2pm.

● ● ● THE PIRATE (1948): Director Vincente Minnelli may have created his Caribbean island in the studio but with stars like Judy Garland and Gene Kelly, songs by Cole Porter and lush colour, the staginess hardly matters. BBC2, 12.20-2pm.

● ● ● HELLZAPOPPIN' (1941): Mank, surreal farce featuring vaudevillians Ole Olsen and Chic Johnson in a screen version of their famous stage hit. A non-stop volley of verbal and visual gags built around the attempts of two bungling comics to put on a show. Channel 4, 1.25-3pm.

● ● ● MEET ME IN ST LOUIS (1944): A charming portrait of small-town America, designed as an affirmation of traditional values at a time when family life was being disrupted by the war. Delights include the playing of the young Judy Garland and Margaret O'Brien (above), numbers like the Trolley Song and sumptuous Technicolor. The first in a season of musicals directed by Vincente Minnelli. BBC2, 11.45pm-1.35am.

## BOXING DAY

● ● ● CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG (1968): Dick van Dyke as a crazy inventor who gives an old racing car magical powers. Overlong and sometimes uneasy mixture of sentiment and farce, but kids lap it up. BBC1, 10.30am-12.45pm.

● ● ● ESCAPE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (1974): Two orphan children with supernatural powers come under the wing of dastardly millionaire Ray Milland. Disney sci-fi, ideal for a young audience. ITV, 10.30am-12.15pm.

● ● ● THE GUNS OF NAVARONE (1961): Gregory Peck and David Niven lead Allied commandos in a mission to destroy huge German guns on a Greek island. Effective Second World War blockbuster, stronger on action than talk. BBC1, 1.30-4pm.

● ● ● 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA (1954): James Mason makes a splendid Captain Nemo in a spirited Disney version of the Jules Verne adventure about Victorian scientists held on a submarine. ITV, 2.10-4.30pm.

● ● ● THE BAND WAGON (1953): Vincente Minnelli's vibrant putting-on-a-show musical, joyously performed by Fred Astaire, Jack Buchanan (his best film part as an eccentric Broadway producer) and Cyd Charisse. BBC2, 4-5.50pm.

● ● ● THE SPY WHO LOVED ME (1977): Tired addition to the James Bond cycle, with 007 Roger Moore pitted against megamachine Cud Jurgens and a seven foot villain, Jaws (Richard Kiel). ITV, 5.15-7.30pm.

● ● ● SOME LIKE IT HOT (1959): Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis as musicians in drag on the run from gangsters, Marilyn Monroe in cute support. Billy Wilder's comic farce is short on discipline but rich in gags. BBC2, 10.05pm-midnight.

● ● ● THE VERDICT (1982): A typically solid and satisfying drama from director Sidney Lumet with strong performances from Paul Newman and James Mason as about medical ethics. BBC1, 10.55pm-12.20am. *British television premiere.*

● ● ● AIRPLANE! II: THE SEQUEL (1982): Another frenzied lampoon of the disaster movie, but like most movie sequels it fails to match the original. ITV, 11.15pm-12.50am. *British television premiere.*

● ● ● THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER (1940): Bittersweet romantic comedy from director Ernst Lubitsch, set in pre-war Budapest, and drawing deft performances from James Stewart and Margaret Sullivan as the pen pals who find that real-life contact is not so easy. BBC1, 12.20-2am.

## Competitive edge and a touch of nostalgia

## TELEVISION

Christmas television, at the end of the day, is all about ratings, and ratings depend not so much on the goods but how they are scheduled. It is no coincidence that BBC1 has EastEnders starting on Christmas Day at 6.35pm. As Britain's most-watched programme it stands an excellent chance of sabotaging ITV's Bond film which kicks off five minutes earlier, and with another edition of *EastEnders* on the same night (10-10.30pm), the Beeb should clean up.

In between the two visits to Albert Square, the admirable Joan Hickson, who has become a television star at 80, is back as Miss Marple in *The Murder at the Vicarage* (8.20-10pm). ITV gamely responds with another Christie, *Dead Man's Folly* (10.10pm-midnight) only to risk a second battering from *EastEnders*.

Competitive scheduling is not confined to the main audience. BBC2 and Channel 4 both have Christmas Day documentaries on musicians, both starting at 7.20pm. The BBC offering, Aaron Copland: *A Self Portrait*, marks his 85th birthday, while on 4 there is Vladimir Horowitz — *The Last Romantic*. Horowitz is 82. Wendy Hiller is not a bad age, either. She plays Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Channel 4, Christmas Day, 9-11.10pm).

Like Agatha Christie, Alan Ayckbourn has become a seasonal fixture. He is represented this year by *Season's Greetings* (BBC2, Wed, 9-10.50pm), a funny-pained view of a family Christmas performed with relish by a smacking cast that includes Geoffrey Palmer, Anna Massey and Peter Vaughan.

Jeremy Isaacs says that as long as he is in charge of Channel 4 there will always be a Christmas showing of *The Snowman*. Tune in to this delicate piece of animation on Christmas Day, 5.50-6.20pm. The Box of Delights could also become a Christmas perennial. The beautiful adaptation of Massfield's story is back on BBC1, in three parts, starting on Monday, 5-6pm.

## RADIO

Christmas radio is heavily tinged with nostalgia. The Goons are back (see top of page) and so is Paul Temple and there are golden moments from *The Archers*.

But it is not entirely a trip down memory lane. Radio 3 has a new play by Anthony Minghella, a young writer who has blossomed in 1986 with his first West End production, *Made in Bangkok*, and the television drama, *What If It's Raining?* His radio play, *Two Planks and a Pencil* (Tues, 7.30-9.30pm) goes back to the Middle Ages and the city of York, which is staging the *Mystery Plays*.

Financial stringency threatens the enterprise but with a royal visit in the offing, civic pride determines that the money shall be found. A cast which any West End manager would dream about includes another man of 1986, David Threlfall of *Paradise Postponed*. Less demanding fare is offered on Radio 4. Peter Sallis plays Agatha Christie's sleuth in

Hercule Poirot's Christmas (Christmas Eve, 7.30-9pm), the first in a series of classic crime stories. Unlike these, Francis Durbridge's Paul Temple was a radio original, which never translated successfully to other media.

Paul Temple and the Conrad Case, first heard in July 1959, is revived on Christmas Day (Radio 4, 6.30-7pm), with Peter Coker, Marjorie Westbury as Steve and the famous cliffhangers. Vintage *Archers* are also on Christmas Day (Radio 4, 8.05-8.50am), recalling the demise of Grace and other gems from the 35-year-old story of country folk.

There is a revealing portrait of Hollywood in its heyday in *You Must Remember This* (Radio 4, Boxing Day, 9.30-10.15pm). Nigel Andrews looks at the making of *Casablanca* from its origins as an unproduced play and through the Warner Brothers sausage machine to silver screen triumph in 1942. Funny to think that Ronald Reagan, not Humphrey Bogart, could have landed the part of Rick, though *Casablanca* is Spanish for White House.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

## CONCERTS

**INTIMATE MESSIAH:** The choir and orchestra of The Sistine take a small-scale view of Handel's *Messiah*. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Today, 7pm.

**NATIONAL CHILDREN:** The National Children's Orchestra plays Panufnik's Heroic Overture, Saint-Saëns's *Dance Macabre*, Chabrier's *Espana*, Maw's *Summer Dances*, Rindout's Recorder Concerto. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Tomorrow, 7.15pm.

## ROCK

**DR FEELGOOD:** Lee Brilleaux has been on the road most of the year with his gang of R&B peripherals and Christmas week is no exception.

## DANCE

**LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET:** Peter Schaufuss's new production of *The Nutcracker* opens Fri. Performances continue twice daily until Jan 3, then nightly plus Sat matinees until Jan 17. Festival Hall (01-928 3191).

**ROYAL BALLET:** Another *Nutcracker*, this one produced by Peter Wright. Two performances today (with Marie Almeida and Antony Dowson featured this afternoon, Cynthia Harve and Jay Jolley tonight; further performances Dec 27 (plus matinee), 29, 31 and Jan 1, 2, 3 (plus matinee), 8, 9 and 9. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

**NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE:** A different Christmas treat. *Cinderella* in a Viennese setting with a specially written score by

Johann Strauss. Tonight at the Leisure Centre, Wilmslow (0625-633789); then Mon & Tues evenings, Wed matinee, Fri matinee and evening, plus further performances until Jan 3, at the Derrigste, Northampton (0604 24811).

## OPERA

**ROYAL OPERA HOUSE:** *Luce di Lammermoor* is the Royal Opera's Christmas offering on Tues and Boxing Day at 7.30pm. Handel's *Sansone* on Mon at 7pm. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

**ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA:** Janáček's early, short opera, *Osud* (Fate), twinned most enterprisingly with a staged performance of the composer's haunting *Diary of One who Disappeared* on Mon at 7.30pm. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London, WC2 (01-836 3161).

## GALLERIES

**SCOTTIE WILSON:** Oddball, 'primitive' paintings. Hastings Museum and Art Gallery, Cambridge Road, Hastings (0424 435952).

Loans scheme in a poster from 1917. German posters were made by pioneers of graphic design and expression. *The Poster in Germany 1914-1920*, is on show at the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 (01-735 8922).

## BOOKINGS

**FIRST CHANCE**

**GARDEN CONCERTS:** Postal booking open for first of series with Royal Opera House orchestra under Bernard Haitink. Feb 12 and 14. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

**Concerts:** Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Galleries: David Lee; Rock: David Sinclair; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse

CLASS



## ENTERTAINMENTS

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## BARBICAN HALL

Barbican Centre, Silk St, EC2Y 8DS. 01-638 8891/620 8795. Telephone Bookings: 10am-8pm 7 days a week

## RAYMOND GUBBAY presents

at the BARBICAN. TUESDAY 23 DECEMBER at 3.30 & 7.45 p.m.

## ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Sir Yehudi Menuhin. SALLY ANN BOTTOMLEY piano. JOHNNY MORRIS narrator.

## BEETHOVEN

Conductor: Sir Yehudi Menuhin. Piano Concerto No. 5 (Emperor).

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## VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents

at the ROYAL ALBERT HALL. NEW YEAR GALA CONCERTS. Sunday 28th December at 7.30

## TCHAIKOVSKY

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. BAND OF THE SCOTS GUARDS. Introduced & conducted by ANTONY HOPKINS.

## OVERTURE '1812' WITH CANNON AND MORTAR EFFECTS

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## SPORTS DIARY

Frances Edmonds in Australia

### Crying shame

Australian cricket captains are not the only sportsmen liable to break down and sob in defeat. John Kollias, the Robert Redford of the America's Cup and skipper of the New York Yacht Club's entry America II, was reduced to tears as New Zealand's "plastic fantastic" KZ7, skippered by 12-metre genius Chris Dickson, eliminated the New Yorkers from the race after their 24 successful defences of the cup in the 132 years preceding Australia II's 1983 victory. It was the sea breeze, the celebrated "Fremantle Doctor" which delivered the death blow to the Americans' \$20 million two-year fight to regain the cup. "We may sue the doctor for malpractice," said the defeated syndicate's spokesman wryly.

After America II's thrashing, two Sydney expatriates turned up at the New York Yacht Club and offered a replacement trophy. The club declined their offer — an empty Foster's beer can with wooden spoon and an Australian flag.

### Super grass

The Adelaide Oval's perfect batting pitch is a credit to groundsman Les Burdett who has long criticized batsmen's use of rubber-soled shoes and maintains that the less popular spikes aerate the pitch instead of merely tearing off the top grass, and gives the spinners some rough to bowl on during the fourth and fifth days. Burdett is winning his argument. Spikes are now mandatory in Sheffield Shield matches at the Oval and he has started preaching the message for Test matches too.

### Blinder

Former Australian skipper Richie Benaud has invented an odd way to improve the leg-spin of Peter Sleep and the off-spin of Greg Matthews. In an attempt to give the bowlers a mental picture of a perfect line and length, Benaud took the pair off to the nets in Adelaide and obliged them to bowl with their eyes closed. Wags in the England team say they thought that the Australian opening attack had already been doing just that in Perth.

### Wakey-wakey

England cricket captain Mike Gatting, who overslept and arrived late at the Melbourne cricket ground for the match against Victoria, will not be allowed to forget his peccadillo. In Adelaide, most of the team ignored the Hilton hotel's megadebolic fire alarm siren which went off at 6.30 am assuming it was some prankster's wake-up call for their dozy skipper.

### Who's who?

After the blood-letting at Somerset Cricket Club, the captain's recently published biography *It Sort of Clicks: Ian Botham talking to Peter Roebuck* is destined to become a collector's item. Roebuck has started another book, to be published by William Heinemann in the spring. A piece from the Australian poet Henry Lawson's anthology, *The Land Where Sport is Sacred*, has inspired the title, *Heroes and Gods*. Roebuck refuses to say who will be placed in which category.

### Big talk

During Mike Gatting's early-morning absence from the Melbourne cricket ground it fell to the oldest member of the team, Phil Edmonds, to give the pre-match pep talk. "No!" interjected someone at one point. "That will not do..." That is a three-syllable word and Gatting does not know any three-syllable words. "Oh, yes he does," countered Surrey's wicket-keeper Jack Richards, mindful of his skipper's increasingly generous grin. "Ham-bur-gers!"

### Board stiff

After the Adelaide Test PBL Marketing, the company that markets the game for the Australian Cricket Board, may well have to rethink some of its advertising slogans. Television slots featuring a lion and a kangaroo in a dramatic "clashes for the Ashes" tussle are perhaps excessive in their claims for exciting play even by the usual PR standards. So dreary was the last day's play that one woman spectator even brought an iron and ironing board to the Oval to press her laundry.

BARRY FANTONI



"I wandered lonely as a leader of the TUC..."

# How free are the Sakharovs?

Peter Reddaway speculates about the conditions that the Russian leaders may have imposed

The imminent return of Andrei Sakharov to Moscow from exile in Gorky does not come as a surprise to close watchers of Soviet affairs. On the other hand, what he and his wife will do to — and be allowed to do — after their return is very unclear, and will depend on many unforeseeable factors.

What is certain is that the Kremlin's move is not part of any discernible general policy of the Gorbachev leadership to ease the extremely harsh measures which have been taken against dissidents and would-be emigrants of all sorts over the past seven years — ever since, in fact, Sakharov was exiled for criticizing the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

A growing number of individuals have, like the Sakharovs, benefited from concessions designed to placate foreign opinion. But emigration is still barred to most applicants. And despite markedly greater openness in the media and cultural life, severe treatment is still being handed out to most dissidents.

The biggest questions are whether the authorities have imposed limits on the Sakharovs' future activity in Moscow, and if so, whether the strong-willed couple intend to observe them.

When campaigning for his wife to be allowed to travel to the United States for medical treatment, which she eventually did this year, Dr Sakharov did, under official pressure, give a very conditional undertaking to limit his public statements. More recently, however, he issued a forthright appeal on behalf of political prisoners, much in the style of his pre-exile days.

The authorities may have decided not to impose any conditions — at least at first — calculating that with the dissident groups in considerable disarray, Sakharov's return to Moscow will not lead to a new surge in their activity. If this were to happen, however, the authorities may have resolved in advance to take whatever steps against Sakharov future circumstances will permit.

Another question-mark hangs over whether the Sakharovs may soon want to move on from Moscow to join their family in Massachusetts. Would the Kremlin in that case agree?

In the past, Sakharov has been convinced that the authorities will never let him emigrate. He believes they do not want the West to know certain non-technical information about the Soviet space programme to which he was privy prior to his exclusion from it in 1968.

Partly for this reason, perhaps, he has never expressed an unequivocal desire to emigrate. He regards Russia as his home, and he feels a duty to act as a spokesman for the persecuted.

By contrast, the Kremlin has sometimes appeared divided on whether it might let him go. Two years ago official spokesmen said

he was free to leave, only to be contradicted by other spokesmen. To date, the Gorbachev regime has taken up the negative position.

The Sakharovs may of course emerge from the ordeal of their exile with changed intentions. The cumulative effect of their hunger-strikes and the barbarity of the doctors who assisted the KGB in tormenting them have damaged their health and aged them. This is clear from Mrs Sakharov's harrowing accounts in her recently published book about their exile, *Alone Together*.

In these circumstances — in their mid-sixties and with their family in the United States — it would not be surprising if any thoughts of emigration grew stronger.

A technical quasi-legal question is also of interest. While Mrs Sakharov has been legally pardoned for her alleged "slandering of the Soviet system", what exactly has happened regarding her husband? When he was exiled without trial, in violation of the law, spokesmen claimed that the basis for this was an unpublished decree of the Supreme Soviet. Has this body now issued another secret decree? If so, what are its terms?

The Sakharovs' return to Moscow fits into a clear pattern of

diplomatic moves by the Gorbachev administration. The physicist Yuri Orlov, the mathematician Anatoly Shchegarsky, the computer-programmer Grivnina, and now the Kiev poet Irina Ratushinskaya have been released one by one, and allowed to leave the country. In these and other cases the main goal has been to create a better image abroad.

At the same time, however, an Orthodox Christian named Rusak has been sentenced to 12 years for his writings on the church, and the psychiatrist Koryagin is still, after three years of mental and physical torture, hovering on the verge of death in prison.

Worst of all, the worker and author Anatoly Marchenko has just become the latest in a lengthening line of dissidents to be pushed over this verge, by brutal prison guards and doctors, and into his grave. As Yuri Orlov surmised yesterday, Marchenko's death may well account for the timing of the Sakharovs' release.

But their release would not have been feasible without the continuous pressure of scientists, governments and humanist organizations over seven years. This has saved the Sakharovs from Marchenko's fate, and brought them, now, from the horrors of a Kalfaeque existence in Gorky to a less abnormal, but highly unpredictable new phase of their lives in the Soviet capital.

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# The many-layered illusions of our cultural decomposition

George Walden challenges the notion that the arts and technology are in conflict

Conservatives make a virtue of frankness about our economic condition. But there is room for a little more honesty about the cultural state of the nation too. Economic effortlessness has made us poorer than we need be; to imagine that we can coast into the future on inherited cultural superiority would risk mixing poverty with pretension.

The effects of economic decline are quickly and keenly felt, and the loss can be calculated in raw cash and human suffering. Retraining, enterprise and investment can prepare for a new industrial age.

Cultural decline is less easy to calibrate, or to counteract. We can measure the losses of a steel mill operating under capacity, but not of a child's brain, imagination or intelligence. The gap between our society's technological and cultural aspirations is large and growing. The reflections of this divergence are to be seen in a new political brutalism, a loss of roots and of simple humanity. None of this will be self-correcting, either by a return to prosperity, or by modern technology alone.

The Times recently crossed swords with the Prince of Wales on the venerable theme of the arts versus science in education. The prince feared technological domination; *The Times*, lack of enterprise. There were few reverberations, perhaps because the exchange fitted too easily into the established pattern of debate.

It is a cosy, predictable sort of debate, with a consoling, backwards-and-forwards rocking-chair movement: on the one hand, the need for more science and training; on the other, the vocational value of the arts. On the one side, the technological imperative; on the other, the humanizing humanities. On one side, philistine materialism; on the other, the rounded man.

The debate itself is becoming a convention, the answers as predictable as the questions. That is what happens if you leave out the little matter of quality. Do we really live in a country of cultural excellence, and economic mediocrity? As soon as the question is posed, the rocking-chair motion becomes less even, and more agitated.

"The British education system is too academic, and not sufficiently practical and vocational." The mind acquiesces numbly in a great contemporary truism, even though nearly everything about it is false. The idea that we should think less to earn more is as unsound as it is unwinning. But the premise itself — that we are "too academic" — is fast forming into a many-layered illusion, a national conceit. The stark truth is that too much of our education is not just anti-business; it is anti-intellectual as well. Only one word comes to our lips as uncertainly as "entrepreneurship", and that is the word "culture" itself.

Nothing resembles a swelling as much as a hollow. Where are the fruits of this supposed "academicism"? In the fact that the government has to set up a public inquiry to discover whether we should be taught the structure of our own language? In the fact that some universities run remedial courses to enable their students to express themselves adequately in their own tongue, after 13 years full-time education? In the reading habits of a country, two-thirds of whose families never buy books, and where what is read by children is pitifully below their potential? In popular veneration for our Nobel scientists? Or on our television screens, where the average child glazes his mind for 23 hours a week — excluding videos?



Over-production of aesthetes and high-domed dreamers would be an entertaining excess; but alas, it is no part of our problem. We need more emphasis on intellectual achievement in the arts and humanities, not less: both for itself, and for vocational reasons too. Our education is not "academic" enough, and it is not practical enough either. There is no either/or between arts and sciences, no conflict between thinking and doing, least of all in the intellectually demanding new technologies. All too often, "too academic" can be a euphemism for "too much mental effort".

In Britain, any talk of culture has to be approached with crablike circumspection, and the word itself somehow carries disagreeable foreign flavours. While British children study *Kex*, or are solemnly taught to memorize the saccharine banalities of the Beatles' songs, the Russians read more of our classics than we do, and the Chinese are catching up. But if No 10 were to follow the example of the Elysée, where the socialist president is sued a statement lamenting "collective amnesia", there would be more derision than delight, and no powers to enforce a more demanding curriculum in the teaching of history.

Educational attitudes are a key measure of the health of a political movement. Nothing illustrates better the degeneration of the British socialist tradition than the gap between the 19th-century idealists and the policies of cultural decomposition pursued by many Labour education authorities today. Once the aim was upwards and onwards; now it is downwards and inwards. It is a poignant historical irony that while Labour activists are encouraging a new form of provincial inversion — "people's history groups", "community publishing", ethnic and sexual absurdities and the rest — communist countries are rediscovering their past: Confucius in China, Luther in East Germany, and a new emphasis on historical writings in Russia.

Left-wing politicians and intellectuals, holding easy sway over lamentably educated supporters, prepare more empty vessels in which to pour the soured wine of socialism. Grand hopes and generous instincts are a thing of the past: leftist educational thinking today has the same relationship to humane literacy as British trade unionism to economic sanity.

The "liberal" tradition, neatly distilled in the Bullock Report on

English, has been quietly disintegrating too. Significantly, the report appeared in 1975 — the nadir of Britain's economic fortunes — and it is worth rereading today. Its august equivocations mirror more accurately than any historical survey the passive accommodation to decline which was the hallmark of the era. Belief in literature as a civilizing experience for pupils of all abilities is described, with deft condescension, as a "spurious credo", and before long the report itself subsides into educational colloquialism: "total teaching situations" and the like.

Conservatives cherish the past and tradition. Yet our modern brand sometimes has a thin, metallic, utilitarian ring, closely associated with economic realism and new defence technologies — vital, but not sufficient pillars of a civilized society. It is right to re-read Adam Smith's economics; but also Thomas Carlyle's denunciations of materialism and spiritual waste. If Conservatives want change within continuity, and to enrich the present with a knowledge of the past, we would do well to encourage a little more familiarity with it. A country losing touch with its own history is like an old man losing his glasses: a distressing sight, at once vulnerable, unsure, and easily disoriented.

Given the binary simplicities of the times, it is scarcely possible to raise such matters without being suspected of Luddism, or of evading economic necessity. But higher cultural aspirations do not conflict with prosperity: they underpin and transcend it. Without them, the protection of democracy and the elaboration of sane public policy will become increasingly difficult, as governments themselves lose the historical perspective against which domestic and international judgments must be made.

An intellectual culture is not a luxury, but a practical economic and political necessity. The *Collège de France* recently described it as "an instrument of free thought, which, like the martial arts in other fields, can help today's citizen protect himself against abuses of power to which he is subjected by advertising, propaganda, and political or religious fanaticism". The dull glint of fanaticism is there in British politics alright. How well are our citizens protected?

The battle raging over the future of Britain's education is one of the most hopeful developments in this country for many years. There is an obscure but growing groundswell of dissatisfaction with things as they are: with the anti-achievement ethos, the institutionalized aspirations to the second rate, the inculcation of ordinariness. It is not just a matter of intellectual achievement — vital and underestimated as that is — but of a healthy reaction against the philosophy of low expectations, whether in football, cooking, English or maths.

People do not relish the prospect of a future in the third league. There is a spark of revolt against the logic of decline, the beginnings of a renewal of the spirit of educational idealism which the Tory Party must capture. A new educational culture, based on quality and effort, in the humanities as well as the sciences, is the only basis for the future of our country. If that is not what people want, then we must dim down our hopes for that future. If it is, then there is a lot to be done.

The author is Minister for Higher Education. The article is based on a recent speech to the Tory Reform Group.

## Peter Brimelow Santa's zappy Christmas

New York

A cheery 30 ft-high Father Christmas has suddenly appeared by the side of the Connecticut road we whizz along every Friday night on our weekend retreat from Manhattan. My wife drives too fast for me to be sure of the details. However, it seems to be an inflatable advertisement for a newly-opened outdoor Christmas-tree emporium.

To British sensibilities, this may sound rather gross. But the fact is that the American rural landscape is so much larger and emptier than that of Britain, even in a relatively highly-populated state like Connecticut, that it simply swallows such details. In any case, I was delighted to see such a stupendous Santa. It confirmed my impression that Christmas has returned to America.

There are of course distinct national differences in the celebration of Christmas. Northern Europeans here go in for much more public display than southern Europeans. The Scots, for obscure Caledonian reasons, prefer New Year — or New Year's, as they say here. But when I first came to America from England as a student in the early 1970s I found the natives' enthusiasm for the festival quite astonishing.

Unlike the British, the Americans decorate the outside of their houses at Christmas. In those days they did it in a spectacular way. Driving through working-class areas you would see front gardens adorned with elaborate tableaux such as whole teams of life-size plastic reindeers pulling Santas and attendant gnomes on sledges, all lighting up at night. Full-grown trees would be festooned with coloured lights. Seasonal greetings would flash on and off. It was a community celebration, and competition, in a way that I remembered in Britain only at the last Coronation.

The energy crisis later cast a pall, literally, over all of this. It wasn't just the increased cost of power: energy conservation became almost a moral issue. But with the collapse of Opec the coloured bulbs are being lit again all over America. Fashion-conscious supplies, however, prefer white lights and discreet conifer wreaths on the door.

So this evening, as I write these lines, I can see through my apartment window the Empire State Building illuminated in its Christmas colours of red and green. Right next-door to me, similar lighting has enabled the public-spirited Metropolitan Life Insurance company to transform the tapering top of its headquarters tower, a copy of the campanile in Venice, into a Christmas tree 700 feet above the snarling Manhattan traffic.

There are other subtle differences between British and

American Christmas customs, not all of them as charming. Americans, for example, seem never to have heard of Boxing Day. They quite regularly work on December 26. Even this year with Christmas Day on a Thursday the New York Stock Exchange is determined to open the next day and disrupt Wall Street's chance of a long weekend.

Americans also don't seem to have heard of Twelfth Night. The holly wreaths and decorations put up with such enthusiasm in December are often still mouldering sadly in March. On the other hand, what we think of as Christmas-card weather still has much of the country in its icy grasp in March. American winters are serious affairs and the victims have difficulty staying in a romantic mood.

It's always amusing to watch the peculiar look that comes over the faces of British visitors when the continuous carol-playing that goes on here at Christmas seems to be interrupted by a lugubrious rendition of *The Red Flag*. The American people have not belatedly validated Karl Marx's prediction and become the vanguard of World Revolution: what they are singing is the German carol *O Tannenbaum*, the source of the melody — sometimes sung in an English translation as *Oh Christmas Tree*. (With different lyrics, it's also the state anthem of Maryland.)

A similar anomaly is the growing practice of trimming holly wreaths with tawny ribbon, despite the Scots' previously-noted general abstention. Indeed, in regions heavily influenced by Scottish immigration, such as the Washington-area town of Alexandria or parts of North Carolina, Christmas has somehow come to be regarded as so typically Scottish that bagpipers are frequently employed in public places to regale the crowds. Actually, of course, the Christmas traditions of both America and Britain are mostly of German origin — transmitted, respectively, through the influence of the Prince Consort and massive immigration. But this is rarely noted.

A regular feature in America's Christmas is the continuous campaign by liberal groups to eliminate any religious symbols from public buildings. The American Constitution prohibits the "establishment" of any religion. But most Americans don't know what an established church is, and zealots have enabled the opportunity to attack even non-denominational symbols with relentless fervour. Illogically, Christmas trees are not challenged, though hardly erected for ecological reasons. Emotions run high at this profoundly emotional season.

Merry Christmas — or, as they say here, "Happy Holiday".

Philip Howard

## Wit half as old as Time

Quotation is the sport of the sedentary classes. It is too late to run a mile in under four minutes, though I impressed myself, and alarmed the conductor, with a long sprint off the crown of the last bend to catch a No 27 bus the other day. I no longer seriously expect a telephone call from Australia inviting me to join the England touring party in order to add some bluff to the middle-order batting, though in my opinion they are wet not to think of it.

But we can all quote; and we do. Oscar, we do. Next to being witty ourselves, the best thing is to quote another's wit. It is the English vice; an irritating form of showing off; and between friends and on the right occasion a way of sharing pleasure. Classical quotation is no longer the parole of literary men all over the world. You need to be jolly careful about letting a particle of Greek or Latin slip out these days, for fear of seeming elitist and an intellectual snob.

Richard Porson, the great Cambridge classical scholar, was as famous for his outstanding memory as for his prodigious capacity for booze. There are stories to confirm the observation that Porson would drink ink rather than not drink at all. One day he was travelling in a stagecoach when an Oxford undergraduate let slip a quotation in Greek, in order to impress the ladies present, and said it was from Sophocles. Porson was not impressed. He pulled a pocket edition of Sophocles from the recesses of his coat, and challenged the young man to find the passage. With the presence of mind and sang-froid for which Oxford is famous, the undergraduate said that he had made a mistake, and that the quotation was in fact from Euripides. Porson immediately produced a text of Euripides and repeated the challenge. In a desperate attempt to save face in front of the giggling girls, the young man declared that the quote must have come from Aeschylus. When the inevitable text of Aeschylus popped out of the folds of Porson's coat, the undergraduate shouted: "Coachman, let me out! There's a fellow here has the whole Bodleian Library in his pocket." The anecdote illustrates well the different qualities of the two universities: pedantry versus style.

By to be occasionally quoted, if only on *What the Papers Say*, is the supreme fame for scribblers.

To make it into *The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* is to have a monument that will last longer than bronze. I am interested in the one-quotations men: those whose literary memory rests on a single quotation. The classic example is Dean Burgon, who as an undergraduate wrote in his entry for the *Newdigate Prize*:

*Match me such marvel save in Eastern clime,  
A rose-red city half as old as Time.*

He was actually quoting from Samuel Rogers:

*By many a temple half as old as Time.*

Plagiarism apart, his single line has lived, unlike anything else that Burgon wrote. He became Dean of Chichester; the rest of his life as a

Christ Wormes



writer must have been anticlimax, like that of an infant prodigy who is finished at the age of 14.

Cornelius Whurr wrote the amiable couplet:

*What lasting joys the man attend  
Who has a polished female friend.*

Nothing beside remains of his writing. The Oxford reference books spell him Whurr, the University Library knows him as Cornelius Whurr. His is still a good solo quote.

Dr M.J. Routh said: "You will find it a very good practice always to verify your references, Sir"; and apparently nothing else worth remembering. This does not seem to be much to show after 63 years as president of a famous Oxford college. It only quotes to show.

Hush little bright line.  
Don't you say  
You'll be a cliché  
By and by.





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## CRACKS IN THE EMPIRE

The past 48 hours have seen developments of great, and ostensibly conflicting, significance in the Soviet Union. The dissident scientist, Andrei Sakharov, and his wife have been released at last from internal exile. The capital of the Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan, Alma-Ata, has been the scene of nationalist riots by Kazakh students, which have been reported by the Soviet media. And the official newspaper, *Pravda*, has blamed Leonid Brezhnev by name for the maladies afflicting Soviet society today.

Together, these developments spell change — change which is at once hopeful and deeply disturbing. They signify that the Soviet media are becoming more open; they illustrate some of the domestic and international tensions besetting the Soviet Union; and they confirm that Mr Gorbachov is concerned with image and presentation in a way his predecessors were not.

Cynics may be tempted to see a grand manipulative scheme behind the spate of reports from Moscow. Might the announcement of Dr Sakharov's release not have been timed deliberately to distract Western attention from news of the unrest in Kazakhstan? Might the criticism of Brezhnev have been designed to justify the replacement of Kazakhstani leader — the event which is believed to have sparked off this week's rioting in Alma-Ata?

Whether or not such connections exist, this week's developments call for a response from the West. Because of their importance, the West should look beyond the appearance to the substance before deciding what that response should be.

The release of Dr Sakharov and his wife, while to be welcomed without reservation, must be seen as a further attempt by the Gorbachov leadership to present a more civilized face to the West. The

castigation of Dr Sakharov, who had through his scientific career brought honour to his country, was an indictment of the whole Soviet system. The illegality of his exile exemplified its arbitrariness; his enforced separation from his wife its inhumanity.

The real import of Dr Sakharov's release waits on time. If he is allowed to resume his contacts with his former colleagues; if he and his wife are both, in time, permitted to travel abroad together — even, if that is their desire, to emigrate — then there will have been a real change of heart in the Kremlin.

However, if conditions — of silence or isolation, perhaps — have been placed on their return to Moscow, their exile in Gorky will have been replaced with an exile which is the more bitter for being more public. And if their experience is not replicated in the treatment of other, less prominent dissidents, whose release would not elicit so favourable a response from the West, then the Kremlin's change of heart will be spurious.

While the temptation for the West will be to respond to the release of Dr Sakharov with unalloyed rejoicing and talk of victory, its immediate response to the unrest in Kazakhstan is likely to be *Schadenfreude*. So, it will be said, the Soviet system finds nationalism just as tricky a force to deal with as the West. So the Russian big-brother has not after all been able to convince even second and third generations of Soviet-educated Kazakhs of Russian beneficence and Soviet nationhood.

There is truth in this assessment, but not all the truth. The young Kazakh rioters were said to be dissatisfied by the replacement of their long-serving communist leader, Dimmukhamed Kunayev, by a native Russian from outside the republic. In their protests, they issued an open challenge

to the decision of the Soviet Communist Party leadership in Moscow, and so to the policies of Mr Gorbachov.

Nationalistic challenges have been staged before in the Soviet Union — in the Baltic states and in the Caucasus — but these had nothing of the menace of disturbances in Central Asia. Here, the combination of a rapidly increasing population, national sentiment and the emotional appeal of Islam which binds its adherents to Mecca rather than to Moscow, is potentially more explosive than any other source of tension in the Soviet Union.

Already, Slavs have lost their overall majority in the Soviet population. Yet the people of Central Asia see the power in their republics passing to Russians even more widely than before — partly as a result of Mr Gorbachov's determination to combat corruption. They see their influence at the centre of power in Moscow similarly diminished. Earlier this year a project to divert north-flowing Siberian rivers southward to irrigate Central Asia was shelved. With the removal of Mr Kunayev, their sole representative on the central Politburo, they have lost their voice at the centre of power.

This first intimation of serious discontent in Central Asia presents Mr Gorbachov with a problem which equals the stagnating economy in its seriousness. It is a problem that cannot be solved by exhortation or by personnel changes. It demands the sort of radical change in attitude that may be foreshadowed in the release of Dr Sakharov.

Whether such change is incipient or not, however, *Schadenfreude* is an inappropriate response from the West. Friends and foes of the Soviet Union alike have now to ask themselves whether they can contemplate civil unrest in the Soviet Union with equanimity. And if they cannot, what their response should be.

## CITY SCANDALS OF 1986

As soon as one prominent City dealer resigned over allegations of insider trading, it was widely realized in the City that a locked door had been opened and that much dirty linen would tumble out. The deal between the American Securities & Exchange Commission and the disgraced New York arbitrageur, Mr Ivan Boesky, has proved a great catalyst. And the appointment of inspectors by the Department of Trade and Industry to investigate its own officers is a further sign that the Government is determined to pursue this process with reformist zeal.

What is now happening is not a result of the changes in the City, encapsulated in the Big Bang. It is part of the process of reforming the old system which had sunk into more tawdry ways than most outsiders imagined.

The Financial Services Act was passed to police the financial world with a new two-tier system of supervised self-regulation, scheduled to come fully into force next autumn. It was in part needed to protect the public from abuses of relatively new and unregulated forms of investment. It was also rethought in the light of the City revolution in order to substitute tough and systematic rules to cope with conflicts of interest previously

prevented by restrictive practices or club conventions.

The City realises the old practices would be fatal to its competition with other financial centres. And The Government understands that the decay permitted to spread under the old ways could discredit the new era of mass individual share ownership.

The basic trouble has been that the old informal club-like system of trust, under the aegis of the Stock Exchange and the Bank of England, has broken down under the same pressures as morality in everyday life. In particular, merchant banks and stockbrokers have sailed closer and closer to the wind in the interests of their clients in takeover bids.

The psychological Achilles heel of the new system is that it is called self-regulation. In practice, however, the new regulatory system is close to the statutory American system. The Securities & Exchange Commission, under the weight of its own bureaucracy, was long ago obliged to operate principally through self-regulating organizations such as the various stock exchanges. In Britain, the Securities & Investments Board, whose members are approved by the Department of Trade & Industry and the Bank of England, plays a similar role to the SEC, though it is a private organization

with authority devolved to it by the DTI. It is illegal to do investment business without a licence which the SIB may take away.

The supervisors monitor the various self-regulating organizations and stipulate much of their rulebooks. Moreover, as recent events have shown, there is now a much stronger purely statutory element operated by the DTI. Only in isolated areas, most notably the City Takeover Panel, does regulation now look weak.

What does need to be looked at again is the source of the corruption that is now emerging. The principal agent, on both sides of the Atlantic, has been the transformation of the individual takeover bid into a large-scale takeover industry, fuelled as much by the operations of the likes of Mr Boesky and the desire of merchant banks and securities houses to drum up business, as by the traditional ambitions of financiers and managers.

To cleanse the financial world, it may be necessary to change the framework of takeover rules and the relations between companies and their shareholders in which this industry flourishes. That — rather than the improved regulatory system that is now exposing some of its excesses — should be the target of financial reformers.

## FOURTH LEADER

Scrooge lives, and we even know his address: Heathrow Airport. The man in charge has decreed that passengers, throughout the holiday period, should not linger over their embraces with the loved ones they are leaving behind. And what reason does he give for this puritanical ukase? That prolonged kissing can lead to one party catching a cold, or even flu, from the other? That such behaviour sets a bad example to the young? That lovers oblivious to the world in each other's arms are the natural prey of pickpockets?

No, he is a much colder fish than that. A peck on the cheek is the recommended limit, it seems, in order to ensure that the check-in queues keep moving briskly.

Picture the scene. "Now, come along, Mrs da Rimini, the Ravenna flight is closing, and there are dozens of people behind you". Or, "Look here, Mr Ulysses, anybody would

think you were going to Asia Minor for ten years". Or, "With humble duty, Sir, Miss Boleyn wouldn't want to be a 'No show', would she?" (Or even, "Oh, do cut it short, M. Abelard, please"). And what about Fifikins and Popsy Bear and all the other inhabitants of our St Valentine's Day small ads: can you see them being content with a wave and a smile?

Now we know why Leander swam. And anyway, there is a fallacy at the heart of this heartless Savonarola. "Say your goodbyes", he says, "at the entrance to the terminal." And what would that achieve, apart from ensuring that there would be nobody at the check-in until the last minute, when the entire passenger-list would arrive simultaneously? And that is to say nothing of the traffic-jams outside the terminal buildings, where the clumpers would be doing a roaring trade; who ever heard

of a romantic packing-warden?

No doubt we shall soon begin to see notices at Heathrow displaying the time permitted for an embrace, and the officials with stop-watches and menacing expressions lurking at the counter; we are not sure that we wouldn't prefer the Thought Police to the Kiss Police. Besides, to make the thing fair, those going on short flights should have a briefer embrace-time than those going far, has that been taken into account? There should be an extra allowance, too, for newly-weds, and a rigidly-enforced ten seconds maximum for gentlemen seeing off — ahem — other gentlemen's wives.

"Touch her soft mouth, and march", says Pistol, setting out for Agincourt. "I cannot kiss", says Nym, "that is the humour of it". We wondered what became of Nym, and now we know; he got a job at Heathrow, and worked his way up.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Reagan and the Republican cause

From Dr Bruce Collins

Sir, Mr Patrick J. Buchanan, White House director of communications (feature, December 10), makes out a wholly erroneous case against the disloyal Republican party establishment.

He tells us that President Reagan "has done more for the Republican Party than any American since Theodore Roosevelt". T.R., of course, ruined his party's chance of keeping the presidency in 1912 when he challenged the incumbent William H. Taft, first for the party's nomination and then for the presidency, thus letting the Democrats in.

Second, Buchanan asserts that Reagan brought the Republicans "back from Watergate to become the party of vision and opportunity" when it seemed to be written off. In fact, shrewd commentators in the mid-1970s predicted a major realignment, with gains for a pragmatic, yuppie (if you like) Republicanism following the passing or aging of the New Deal generation, its ethnic ties and its economic preoccupations. The "Watergate" mid-term election of 1974 merely postponed that process.

Third, Buchanan deplores the Republican establishment's lack

### Unfair to British sportswomen?

From Mrs Sylvia Disley

Sir, In his article on the decline of Oxbridge sporting excellence David Miller (Spectrum, December 9) gives as one of the reasons the proportional rise in women students which, he says, "cut the available pool of sportsmen", thus assuming that sportswomen do not count.

Maybe in these establishments they do not, but they should be mindful of the fact that since the war British women have taken their share of Olympic medals, world records and so on in such sports as track and field athletics, swimming and cycling, while in tennis British women have reached the final of the singles tournament at Wimbledon on six occasions and three have won it, during which time not one British man has succeeded in even reaching the final.

Last year the Cambridge women's ski team beat its Oxford counterparts at Val d'Isère, while the Cambridge men lost to Oxford. Consequently the defeated Cambridge men were allowed to join the prestigious Hawks Club, membership of which is not known to be disadvantageous to gaining employment in later life, while the victorious women skiers were not. This is because the Hawks Club is for men only.

Perhaps when Oxbridge can offer the same advantages to their sportswomen as to their sportsmen they may enjoy a renaissance of their former sporting glories.

Yours faithfully,  
SYLVIA DISLEY,  
Hampton House,  
Upper Sunbury Road,  
Hampton, Middlesex,  
December 13.

### South African arrest

From Mr David Astor

Sir, Amidst all the gloom in South Africa, "the quality of the country's Black leaders shines through: their idealism, their genuine sense of non-racism, and their readiness not only to forget but to forgive, compel admiration. These are precious assets."

This quotation, from the Commonwealth Eminent Persons' report, applies to Mr Zwellakhe Nkomo, arrested last week in Johannesburg for no given reason.

I had visited him recently at his paper, *New Nation*, which he edited with the financial backing of the Catholic Church. He struck me as one of the finest young men I have met in any country. His views were level-headed, independent, generous-minded and notably modest for the already famous son of two politically distinguished parents.

Such a well-balanced man is rare in any society. In South Africa he is indeed a precious asset, someone who could help to build one community out of the artificially segregated divisions of the republic of today.

DAVID ASTOR,  
9 Cavendish Avenue, NW8,  
December 15.

### Payment of VAT

From Ms Karen Warwick

Sir, I recently had to find nearly £12,000 to pay the barristers who had advised my solicitor over my petition to the European Human Rights Commission against the British Government and who had represented me at an oral hearing in Strasbourg. Of this, over £1,500 went straight to HM Customs and Excise in VAT.

When the rights guaranteed by the European Convention cannot be litigated against the United Kingdom authorities in the UK itself, is it not scandalous that an individual should be heavily taxed by those same authorities perhaps to the point of bankruptcy, as Mr Manches points out (December 11) — for going right outside the UK to argue that they, the authorities, have violated basic human rights?

Yours faithfully,  
KAREN WARWICK,  
109 Balls Pond Road, N1,  
December 11.

### Aids as moral issue

From Mr R. T. Oerton

Sir, People are, of course, fully entitled to believe that an *a priori* principle that sexual conduct should be confined to heterosexual conduct within marriage may be derived from scriptural or other sources. But it is as dishonest to claim that Aids validates that principle as it would have been to claim that the invention of the contraceptive pill invalidated it. Absolute moral principles, by definition, do not stand or fall according to the practical consequences of their breach.

The idea that Aids should be fought by preaching a moral principle of this kind is equally untenable: people would not be at risk at all unless they had already rejected it.

My own view, for what it is worth, is that there is a link

between Aids and immorality, but of a much simpler kind. There is only one absolute moral principle: that which forbids the doing of harm to others. On this view sexual behaviour is immoral only to the extent that it causes harm, and this must depend on many variable factors. Aids is now one such factor, and its existence may render certain sexual behaviour immoral which otherwise would not be so.

Yours faithfully,  
R. T. OERTON,  
84 Burleigh Road, NW5.

From Mrs P. E. Mitchell

Sir, I read your wise words with interest today (December 16) in your leader, "Aids and morals".

Where, oh where, is the Archbishop of Canterbury?  
Yours faithfully,  
PAMELA MITCHELL,  
46 Eaton Terrace, SW1.

### Measures of evil

From Mr P. M. W. Butler

Sir, Rabbi Julia Neuberger (December 3) voices a tradition and faith according to which the inclination of human beings towards "good" on the one hand and "evil" on the other is dependent on moral teaching or on various contrary factors, as the case may be.

Do we have to be told what is good and what is evil? To say so denies "the moral law" within him that filled Immanuel Kant's mind "with wonder and awe".

Of course he was a great thinker, not one of the herd but speaking for himself. Nevertheless, might it not be true that such a man, and

others like him, have helped to create the tradition of which Rabbi Neuberger speaks, because and by means of an innate power that need not be explained in terms of any religion or culture?

In using this word "power" I am thinking of what Juliette Huxley, in her autobiography, *Leaves of the Tulip Tree*, calls "the power of life", universal as it is.

Our capacity for evil, begotten of our consciousness, works against this; it might almost be called "anti-life". But the life principle has ceased to apply to the human race by means of natural selection (working, as Darwin wrote at the end of *The Origin of Species*, "solely by and for the good of each being"), so

that we have it in varying degrees, depending on inheritance as much as, if not more than, what we are taught or the society in which we live, powerful as teaching and environment have always been, for good or ill.

Looked at this way, the capacity for evil is no real mystery, but instincts still remaining with us (that is, what we have naturally if man-made distortions can be discounted) tend to work for mutual good. So it is Kant's moral law that is valid, not Rabbi Neuberger's even balance.

Yours faithfully,  
P. M. W. BUTLER,  
Cherry Tree Cottage,  
Chase Road, Upper Colwall,  
Malvern, Worcestershire.

## ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 20 1955

Most of the essays which graced the Court Page in the 1950s and 1960s were the work of amateur writers. In content and style they often at least equalled that of professionals.

### BANKING IN ARCADY

From a Correspondent

I never feel so much a stranger as I do in the Essex town where I was born and which was my home for nearly 30 years. Though the tie is still strong, revisited it seems no longer the place to which I belong. Not that it looks much different from how it looked when I was a boy there 60 years ago. There is the same wide High Street with the market stalls in the middle, and I know exactly where the lanes and alleys turn out of it. Even some of the names over the shops are the same. I have an intense feeling of recognition, but the Epping with which I was once so familiar does not recognize me.

Because, of course, it is not there. It lies buried under the layers of the years. What I recognize is only the ghost town, the Epping which, in those late-Victorian times, was like a village in Arcady, isolated in a green ring of forest and farmlands, motor-cars unknown, bicycles at the penny-farthing stage, aeroplanes and radio unheard of. That is the Epping to which I belong, more real to me than the busy modern town that has replaced it.

And most vividly real at that corner of the High Street where the bank used to be. For it was there that, by the lucky chance of being sent fresh from school to be junior clerk, I gained my experience of banking in Arcady.

It was before the time of the great amalgamation of the country banks when still run by private companies. Ours was the Chelmsford bank of Sparrow Tufnell and Co., and being merely an "Agency", not yet promoted to "Branch" status, there were only the three of us — manager, chief clerk, and me — to cope with the business. We kept idyllic hours, opening at 10 and closing at 3 except on market day (Friday) when we went on till 5. For most of the week a drowsy peace reigned in the town. In summer, the office was filled with the perfume of sweet briar from the hedges that grew below the window. Rooks made drowsy music from the tall trees across the green.

As a mere Agency, all we had to do was to receive the credits and cash the cheques of the customers, enter the details in a Day Book (my job), and post a statement of the day's business, together with the cheques handed to the Chelmsford head office where the customers' accounts were kept and their pass-books made up. When our stocks of gold and silver needed replenishing the manager donned his tall hat and frock coat, took a large, heavily secured black bag, and went to London to bring back more from our agents. He would have been an easy prey to robbers on the way home, but nobody ever molested him.

### BROAD BROGUES

The office resounded with the broad brogue of rural Essex, mingled with many Scottish accents, for the Essex soil is much like that of the lowlands and attracts the Scottish farmers.

It made Saturday a busy morning with us when the results of this weekly boom in trade flowed into our credit account.

Then I would handle the cheques of so many different colours and designs that the banks of those days printed, a source of never-ending delight to me. They were banks whose titles have long been forgotten, titles often romantic because of the rhythmic string of names, all printed in beautiful penmanship and with decorative tops and flourishes — Prescott, Dinsdale, Fane Tugwell and Co.; Herries Farquhar Chapman and Co.; Sir John Wm. Lubbock, Bart.; Forster and Co.; Barclay Bevan Tritton Ransom Bouverie and Co. — they read like lines from some mysterious poetry. The most elaborate was "Cocks Biddulph Cocks Biddulph and Co.". It might have come out of Dickens. . .

### Lick and promise

From Sir Francis Avery Jones

Sir, Animals lick their wounds and they heal remarkably quickly; they sometimes do the same for a fellow animal. Kind Primrose, the cow, clearly thought her owner's balding pate needed a helping lick and her wish was fulfilled with his hair growing again (report, December 15).

Medical scientists have recently discovered that saliva contains a powerful skin healing chemical which is known as urogastrone/epidermal healing factor (UROEHF). It has been chemically identified and synthesized, but its full medical capabilities have yet to be discovered.

Primrose may have provided doctors with an invaluable clue. It is a most interesting substance; its presence was suspected over 50 years ago when a possible cure for duodenal ulcer was being investigated. It now seems that this indeed may be another use for it. It almost certainly explains how quickly dental wounds heal, a fact much appreciated by dentists and their patients.

Primrose has had her just reward, saved from the fate of her fellow Jerseys (not Friesians, surely?), living on at the farm as a family pet. Doubtless she will achieve a place in the *Guinness Book of Records* as the cow who licked her way to fame! Yours faithfully,  
F. AVERY JONES,  
Mill House, Nuthourne,  
Pulborough, West Sussex,  
December 16.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
December 19: The Prince Edward, Chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award 30th Anniversary Tribute, visited Northern Ireland today.

His Royal Highness, attended by Wing Commander Adam Wise, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
December 19: The Prince of Wales, Vice-Patron, The British Council, this morning visited the Council Offices at 10, Spring Gardens, SW1 and 11, Portland Place, W1.

Sir John Riddell, Bt was in attendance. His Royal Highness, Chancellor, the University of Wales, gave a luncheon at Kensington Palace for representatives from the University and from industry.

December 19: The Duke of Gloucester, President, East Midlands Tourist Board, today

### Appointments

Latest appointments include Miss D.M. Otter, Headmistress of the Royal Naval School, Haslemere, to be Headmistress of Bedford High School, in succession to Mrs M.E.A. Kaye. The following to be lay members of the Investigation Committee of the Solicitors' Complaints Bureau: Ms Jean Horsham (chairman), Mr Michael Barnes, Mr Kenneth Sharp, Mr Paul Okajie, Mr John Mellors, Mr Anthony Heywood, and Mr R. William Jones.

received Mr John Dillon-Guy, Director, and Mr Rodney Calow, General Services Manager.

### Birthdays

**TODAY:** Miss Jenny Agutter, 34; Mr J. M. Beaumont, 59; Mr Paul Brickhill, 70; Sir George Coldstream, QC, 79; Mr Charles Denton, 49; Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, 60; Viscount Sandon, 64; Miss Rachel Trickett, 63; Sir Dick White, 80; Mr John Whitney, 56.

**TOMORROW:** Sir Robert Armitage, 80; Sir Arthur Benson, 79; Air Commandant Dame Jean Bromet, 74; Lord Caccia, 81; Mrs Chris Evers-Joyce, 52; Vice-Admiral Sir Justice Lawton, 75; Mr David McFall, 67; Mr W.M.M. Milligan, 79; the Most Rev John A. Murphy, 81; Sir John Nabarro, 71; Mr Anthony Powell, 81; Flight Lieutenant W. Rick, VC, 65; Mr Walter Spangher, 43; Mr Greville Starkey, 47; Mr Peter Timmiswood, 50; Mr James Tye, 65; Dr Kurt Waldheim, 68.

### Royal visit to Portugal

The Prince and Princess of Wales will visit Portugal from Wednesday, February 11 to Saturday, February 14, at the invitation of the President of Portugal. They will be visiting Lisbon and Oporto.

### Judge retires

Judge Forrester-Paton, QC, retired yesterday at the age of 65 after presiding over the Northern Circuit for 23 years.

### Sale room

## Renaissance fake fetches £32,200

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A magnificent Renaissance fake was sold by Christie's on Thursday afternoon for £32,200 (estimate £30,000 to £40,000) to Armage, the London dealer. It is an enamel and rock-crystal centrepiece mounted in gold and silver gilt, emulating the great Mannerist creations of the sixteenth century.

It was exhibited at the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1962 as a genuine Renaissance masterpiece but since then it has been unveiled as one of the creations of Reinhold Vasters, a 19th-century German goldsmith of genius who supplied late 19th-century millionaires with richly ornamental historical fakes.

Vasters was unmasked in 1979 when Charles Truman, working through the design drawings in the Victoria and Albert Museum, came upon nearly one thousand of his designs for goldsmiths' work. There were drawings for pieces long considered genuine, notably in the Victoria and Albert and the Metropolitan Museum, New York.

The centrepiece is the third major item by Vasters to come on the market since 1979. There is an ink and body-colour drawing for it in the Victoria and Albert archive. This proved to be the star lot of an English collection of objects of vertu formed in the

early decades of the century. The collection brought £273,670 with nine per cent left unsold.

In New York on Thursday a group of rare Hebrew manuscripts disappointed the auctioneers' expectations. A very rare, fine and complete Medieval *Machzor*, or cycle of the liturgy, dating from the early 14th-century sold for \$467,500 (unpublished estimate \$600,000 to \$800,000), or £322,413, to an American collector. A 15th-century illuminated *Haggadah* from northern Italy was left unsold at \$185,000 (estimate \$250,000 to \$350,000). The sale of Judaica made a total of £912,620 with 37 per cent left unsold.

The morning sale of applied arts from 1880 to the present day at Sotheby's in London yesterday totalled £374,302 with 4 per cent left unsold. The top price was £29,700 (estimate £3,000 to £5,000) for a Lalique glass table of the 1930s. It has a circular top with eight glass panels moulded with putti and garlands, a cylindrical column support and flared base, both with panels of frosted glass.

©The autumn turnover of Christie's totalled £208 million, or roughly two-thirds that of Sotheby's, and not £158 million, or roughly half, as reported yesterday.

## True faith of the Virgin Birth

What does the Church of England believe about the Virgin Birth of Jesus? At the last General Synod, the "consensus fidelium" was established through two important votes in the House of Clergy and the House of Laity.

After recent episcopal doubts and denials, the clergy and the laity resolved that belief in the virgin conception of Jesus is the faith of the Church of England. These were not reports but "votes", and as such were quite unique. Here, at last, was the specific response to a series of reports and debates, whose history has spanned 60 years.

Although a number of clergy would rather not have reached any conclusion, the result was definite: the Church of England is committed to belief in the virgin conception of Jesus. The resolution was passed by a large majority in the House of Clergy and an overwhelming majority in the House of Laity.

But how can thoughtful people affirm such a belief? Here are six considerations.

First, the starting point is the Gospel narratives themselves. Matthew and Luke both have the same central core — namely that Mary remained bodily a virgin in the conception of Jesus and did not have intercourse with Joseph. Yet both evangelists clearly were drawing on very different sources for their information. Few, therefore,

would deny the following: "That a virgin conception through the power of the Holy Spirit is one of the few points on which they agree that this tradition antedated both accounts" (Raymond E. Brown).

The story of the Virgin Birth goes right back to the earliest period. Indeed, the infancy narratives are clearly of Palestinian origin. They reflect Jewish fears of Herod the Great and Jewish piety centred on temple worship in Jerusalem. The traditional view is that the ultimate source of the narratives is the holy family — Joseph for Matthew and Mary for Luke. We must also remember that James, Jesus's brother, became head of the church at Jerusalem. He was, therefore, in a position to correct any Palestinian traditions where they were obviously untrue.

Second, the claim that "virgin births" are common in other religious literature has to be challenged. For religious literature mostly has accounts of "holy marriage". Here a god in human or superhuman form sexually impregnates a woman. But that is quite unlike the accounts of the virgin conception in the Gospels.

Third, the story of the Virgin Birth cannot simply be dismissed as a *midrash* — and for this reason. In Judaism a *midrash* was essentially a commentary on a passage of

Old Testament scripture, which then "took off". The midrashist had a text in front of him which he elaborated often in a most fanciful way. But the text was the starting point.

However, Matthew clearly isn't starting with a text. He has a series of traditions about the birth and childhood of Jesus. Into these he weaves scriptural references. He is not adapting the narratives to fit scripture. If anything he is adapting scripture to fit the narratives. The quotation in Matthew 2:23 ("he shall be called a Nazarene") is a very drastic adaptation — it has no known reference. Matthew is not taking Old Testament texts and then writing myths to fit.

If he were doing that he would have chosen more evocative sections of the Old Testament. And, from contemporary Jewish practice, we know that basic events were never concocted out of texts. The Dead Sea Scrolls from Qumran show how texts are made to fit contemporary events and not vice-versa. There always was a substratum of fact. Even the critic must admit that Matthew started with the basic outline of the infancy narrative.

Fourth, Luke himself tells us that he was interested in "the truth" — "it seemed good to me — to write an orderly account — that you may know the truth concerning the things

of which you have been informed" (Luke 1:3-4). Even if contemporary Jews had a more cavalier approach to history writing, there is every reason for thinking that the early Christians had a very different attitude to history.

That was because other Jews located the saving events of God in the distant past; or, if they were of an apocalyptic turn of mind, in the future; but the early Christians said they were located in the recent past. Hence we must presuppose they had an interest in what actually happened.

Fifth, the Old Testament said the Messiah would be born of David's line. The New Testament makes it clear that Jesus was believed to be the Messiah. Why then invent an untrue story that separates Joseph (of David's line) from the process of conception?

Sixth, if Mary had not been a virgin, no one would have created a myth to suggest she was a great example of obedience. The strict moral climate of the day would have classed her fornication as highly disobedient.

It is for reasons such as these that the consensus in the Church of England says that there is historical substance in the Gospel infancy narratives. Mary, once again, is being honoured as the virgin Mary.

David Holloway  
Vicar of Jesmond  
Newcastle upon Tyne



The Prince of Wales getting a taste of pop music yesterday when he visited a British Council exhibition, "Pop! British Music in the Eighties", which will soon be making an overseas tour.

### University news

**Oxford**  
Professor Zarev A. Cohn, Professor and senior physician, Laboratory of Cellular Physiology and Immunology, Rockefeller University, New York, has been elected to the Newton-Abraham visiting professorship in medical, biological and chemical sciences for the year 1987-88.

**Queen's, Belfast**  
Appointments  
Professors emeriti: Mr W Kirk (geography), Dr C Ehrlich (economics and social history) and Dr J C Murdoch (crop and animal production).

Professorial fellow: Dr F Brown, head of virology at Wellcome Biotechnology.

**Grants**  
Science and Engineering Research Council: £151,779 to Dr J. McCann, for research on the use of computer aided design and pattern recognition in the design of prosthetic limbs. £113,800 (with Leeds University) to

### OBITUARY

## PROFESSOR J. M. DODD

World leader in his branch of research

Professor J. M. Dodd, FRSE, Professor of Zoology at the University College of North Wales from 1968 to 1981, died on December 15, at the age of 71. Dodd was the prototype of a whole generation of comparative endocrinologists, who gave the subject stature.

James Munro Dodd was born on May 26, 1915, and educated at the White House School, Brampston, Cumberland, and Liverpool University, where he graduated with first class honours in zoology in 1937.

From an early stage, his interest was marine biology, but finding no posts available he became a teacher at Cardigan Grammar School in 1938.

A research post in marine biology was offered to him as soon as he took the job, but he felt honour-bound to refuse it.

By this time war was looming, and he joined the RAF, first as an aircraftman. But on the death of his mother he felt free to become flying crew. He was rejected as a pilot because of a slight defect of vision. This did not deter him and he became a navigator.

Drafted to Transport Command he flew to many parts of the world from Greenland to Australia, ferrying freight and passengers, often on secret and important missions.

On return to civilian life in 1946 he was appointed assistant in zoology at Aberdeen University, and in the following year he was appointed lecturer and later reader in zoology at St Andrews, where he was director of the Gatty Marine Laboratory, a post much to his liking, where he developed his knowledge and skill in marine biology. He stayed there until 1960 when, with some reluctance to

leave a happy situation, he moved to Leeds as Professor of Zoology. There he set up and directed the Robin Hood's Bay laboratory, near Whitby, a centre for the investigation of the ecology of rocky shores.

In 1966 he moved to the Lloyd Roberts chair of Zoology at Bangor.

Dodd made outstanding contributions to comparative endocrinology and was one of an elite group which, in the 1950s, established it as a recognized discipline within zoology, making the United Kingdom the leading country for research in the subject. His work concentrated on cartilaginous fishes, sharks, skates, rays and dogfishes.

Whilst sharks have gained recent notoriety in other directions, they are not suitable for laboratory work. It was Dodd's contribution to find methods of keeping smaller dogfishes in the laboratory for considerable periods, and his work is confined to one species (*Scyliorhinus canicula*).

Friendship with Dodd was a great privilege. His wisdom and humour made his company always a delight. He had a great love of nature and the arts, in particular music.

It was not easy to penetrate his reserve. His strength of character carried him through early difficulties, such as curing by his own efforts a very bad stammer.

He combined knowledge with manual dexterity. His kindly understanding, together with an ability to explain complex matters simply, made him a good teacher.

Dodd's main collaborator was his wife, Dr Margaret Dodd, herself a distinguished zoologist. He is survived by her and their three sons.

### PROFESSOR GLYN DANIEL

Professor Colin Renfrew writes:

Your obituary of Glyn Daniel (December 15), while paying tribute to his work as a popularizer of archaeology, failed to give an adequate account of his scholarly contributions to the subject, and appeared also to belittle the originality of his archaeological research.

Glyn Daniel was an innovator in at least two ways. He was the first systematic historian of archaeology, at any rate in the English language. His pioneering *The Three Ages* laid the foundations for the first coherent account of the history of the subject, *A Hundred Years of Archaeology* (1950). Supported by the documentary evidence set out in *The Origins and Growth of Archaeology* (1967) and given admirably lucid expression in concise form in *The Idea of Prehistory* (1962), this body of work gave several generations of students and scholars their first appreciation that archaeology and prehistory are about ideas, not simply about things, and that ideas are produced by people who are themselves the products of their time.

His work in this direction has, moreover, gained a new lease of life with the application of Critical Theory to archaeology in recent years, where the historical context of the research under scrutiny is seen as particularly relevant.

Glyn Daniel was a man brimming over with interests and observations and ideas. His *Antiquity* editorials alone offered more stimulus than the total work of many scholars. Yet in saying this I have not yet touched on his own great and enduring interest, summarized in *The Megalith Builders of Western Europe* (1958), many of whose ideas were already introduced in his seminal article "The Dual Nature of the Megalithic Colonization of Prehistoric Europe", published in 1941. He felt the mystery of these great monuments already on his first visit to Brittany in 1934, and it continued to "exercise an irresistible fascination" upon him, and through him upon generations of younger archaeologists, for the rest of his life.

As his pupil, and as his successor in the Disney Chair of Archaeology, I know that I speak for several generations of students in recalling the boundless intellectual stimulus, humour and sheer good fun of a supervision or even an encounter with Glyn.

### MR TOM SCOTT

Tom Scott, who died on December 17, aged 80, was a familiar figure in post-war golf as editor of the weekly magazine *Golf Illustrated* for 31 years.

When he handed over the editorship in 1977 he continued to write an occasional column, and within a few days of his death had completed a feature for the magazine on the history of the game.

Thomas Ure Paterson Scott was born a Fifer. His early training was with D. C. Thomson's in Dundee, and after the war, which he ended as a squadron leader, he began

### SIR RICHARD CAVE

Mr Peter Bowring, chairman of the Aldeburgh Foundation, writes:

Many of Sir Richard Cave's friends, while appreciating the thoroughness with which his outstanding business career was covered (December 6), will be sorry that no mention was made of his enthusiastic support for the arts in general and, in particular, for the Aldeburgh Foundation.

There is no doubt that Dick Cave's joining the council of the foundation, at a time when its fortunes were at a low ebb, proved to be a blessing.

By his encouragement and by direct help in applying

sound business principles, the foundation was quickly set on its feet again.

But it was not only in his capacity as a businessman of exceptional qualities that he helped. As chairman of the Aldeburgh appeal, his energy and gentle, but very positive, powers of persuasion have ensured that its target is now in sight.

As a generous and regular supporter of the Aldeburgh Festival and other events at Snape Maltings he will be sadly missed.

At Festival time it seemed that his house was always bursting with guests.

### SIR ROGER JACKLING

K. A. G. M. writes:

Many of us fortunate enough to have known Roger Jackling (obituary, November 25) after his retirement from the Diplomatic Service will remember especially his work as a panel chairman for the Civil Service Selection Board, which led to his doing similar work for the police.

In these new tasks he inspired the same trust, respect and deep affection that had helped to make him so successful in diplomacy.

To allow himself to undertake them he declined offers of employment in industry and finance.

### MISS ELLA BAKER

Ella Baker, who died in New York on December 13, on her 83rd birthday, played a notable role in the American Civil Rights movement.

In the 1950s she was important behind the scenes as a field organiser for the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People.

In 1957 she was asked by Dr Martin Luther King to set up the national office of the Southern Leadership Conference.

Later, she organized the conference that created the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

### The Present with a Future\*

Move into party power\*

Nicola Shulman touts the hosts

Eat out and be in\*

Meredith Etherington-Smith says where

Be merry merry well-dressed in\*

all-over Christmas country-house clothes

Earn £1 million a year at 35\*

Nicholas Coleridge tots it up

Find film amusing\*

Alexandra Arley meets the grandest fluff

Look and feel divine\*

**Harpers & Queen**

This Christmas and all through next year — give Harpers & Queen\*  
The glossiest present in Britain

Gift subscription £21.60

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### RHS medals

The council of the Royal Horticultural Society has awarded the Victoria medal of honour in horticulture to:

Dr C. Bevan, of Haddon, Essex, former flower breeder with Fungi Seeds; Mr R. A. E. Taylor, of Abingdon, Oxford, president of the RHS; Lady Palmer, of Torrington, North Devon, a horticulturist; and the Council of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

### Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs David Profumo was christened Thomas David by the Rev Christopher Hamel-Cook and the Rev Peter Watkins at St Marylebone Parish Church, on Friday, December 19. The godparents are Mr Simon Booker, Mr Angus Graham-Campbell, Mr Graham Smith, the Hon Mrs Anselm Rothschild, and Mrs James Sassoon.

### Dinner

The Hon Peter Brooke, Minister of State for the Treasury, gave a private dinner last night at Brooks' to mark the retirement of Mr William Sharp, Controller and Chief Executive of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, at the end of his bicentenary year. Others present were: Mrs Sharp, Sir William Heseltine, Sir Robert Armstrong, Sir Peter Middlebrook, Lord Gordon-Lennox, Sir Kenneth Brindley, Professor B. A. Thrush, Mr Kenneth Baker, Mr John Gieve, Mr Keith Grant, Mr David MacLennan and Mr Michael Norgrove.

### Service dinner

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Officers of C (City of London) Company of the 5th (V) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, held a dinner at HM Tower of London last night. Major H. Raiton welcomed the guests who included the Master and the Clerk of the Cordwainers Company, Colonel M.J. Dudding, Lieutenant-Colonel W.G. Pettifer and Lieutenant-Colonel A.J.M. Rice.

### Latest wills

Mr Alec Hobson, of Aylsham, Norfolk, secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and Wales, died last night at his home, 1946-67, left estate valued at £278,650 net. Mr Harry Macleod Burghes, of Kingston Langley, Wiltshire, surveyor, left £3,642,419 net.

## Breathlessness helped by acupuncture use

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The use of traditional Chinese acupuncture in a British hospital has produced "encouraging and significant improvements" in relieving breathlessness suffered by a group of patients with severe lung conditions.

The successful results of a pilot study into the treatment are "clinically and socially important", according to a report in *The Lancet* today.

The patients who received acupuncture had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, for which there is no satisfactory drug treatment. Patients can experience intolerable breathlessness.

Twenty-six outpatients at the Osler chest unit of the Churchill Hospital, Oxford, took part in the study. Their condition limited their exercise tolerance to walking between 20 and 300 metres.

The patients were divided into two groups. Genuine acupuncture was given to the first group on 13 occasions over three weeks. Stainless steel needles were inserted along the middle of the knees.

Neither electrical nor laser stimulation of the needles was used. The placebo patients were given the same number of "treatments" over the same period. However, their needles were inserted into "non-acupuncture" or "dead" points.

Acupuncture has been reported to be of therapeutic

benefit in the control of back pain and migraine, and may work through the mechanism of endorphin release.

The Oxford researchers decided to test the hypothesis that the treatment might be able to alter the perception of breathlessness and sensations of distress in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

The two groups were tested for exercise tolerance in a series of walks during and following the experiment. The absolute improvements in distance walked in the treated group ranged from 27 to 181 metres, with a mean increase of 77 metres. When individual improvements were assessed they averaged 44 per cent on the last three walks, and 66 per cent on the last walk.

Dr Kim Jobst, who organized the study, said some attempt would be made to assess duration of effect. Further detailed studies and a more prolonged course of treatment were also necessary, he said.

"Whether improvement is achieved because the acupuncture mediates the release of endogenous opiates, as is thought to occur when it is used for pain relief, is purely speculative", he said.

"It is possible that other peptides are implicated or even that some totally different mechanism is responsible."

هكذا من الامم







# Freed hostages snatched back from Malawi

By Nicholas Beeston

Mozambique yesterday seized 57 foreign hostages, recently released by the country's National Resistance Movement, and flew them against their will from Malawi to Maputo in a daring operation overseen by Mr Alberto Chipande, the Mozambique Defence Minister.

In an unprecedented move that has infuriated the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Portuguese Government, the former captives, who were released by the South African-backed MNR (Renamo) guerrilla group on Wednesday as a gesture of goodwill for Christmas, were forced by Malawi police to Blantyre airport.

The 43 Portuguese, 10 Pakistanis, two Cape Verdeans and two Mauritians were denied access to their consuls and forced to board a Mozambican military aircraft, which then flew to Maputo.

Some of the captives had spent 16 months as prisoners in the Mozambican bush, and had earlier declared they did not wish to go to Maputo.

Well-informed sources told *The Times* that Mr Chipande was on board the Soviet-made jet and oversaw the entire operation.

The action has jeopardized a further release by the MNR of eight Westerners - including Mr Ian Robertson, a British engineer, a German family of three, three Portuguese Jesuit priests, and one other Portuguese national.

"The mood of our people inside Mozambique is very bad indeed," said a Renamo spokesman in Lisbon, who claimed the former hostages had been seized by Mozambique so that the Army could question them on the whereabouts of MNR military positions.

He believed an imminent release of the Western hostages was "out of the question under the circumstances".

One explanation for the Malawi police action was that it coincided with the signing of a joint security agreement between Malawi and Mozambique to help end rebel activ-

ity along their common border.

Renamo with South African backing has waged an increasingly successful campaign against the Marxist Government in Maputo by destroying vital communication links and controlling large parts of the countryside.

Yesterday's bold operation by Mozambique follows pressure by black-ruled front-line states against Malawi's President, Dr Hastings Banda, the only leader in the region to maintain diplomatic relations with Pretoria.

Malawi's complicity in the operation suggests that the landlocked country's leadership is straining under pressure from other black states and falling in line with anti-South African policy.

Following the death of Mozambican President Machi in an air crash in October, Pretoria claimed that it had uncovered a secret plot by the late President and Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, to overthrow Dr Banda and replace him with a leader more sympathetic to the front-line cause.

Although Harare and Maputo denied the accusation, Western diplomatic sources in Malawi said the Government was "deeply concerned".

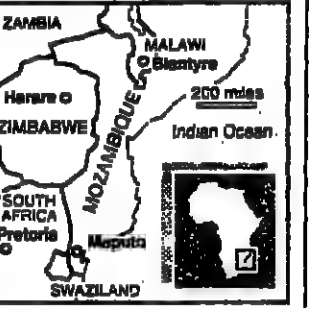
LISBON: Portugal's Foreign Ministry has presented an energetic protest to the Malawi Government for snatching back the 43 Portuguese hostages (Martha de la Cal writes).

The protest was made at the highest level - through the Portuguese diplomat who, along with the ICRC, was in Malawi to carry out the repatriation of the hostages.

This first delivery is worth £15m and 150 US dollars appointed from 1,200 applicants will sell throughout the country.

The Sterling is being produced at the company's Cowley plant at Oxford. Over 2,000 cars will have left Britain for the USA by the end of this year.

(Photograph: Harry Kerr)



# £15m of Sterling bound for America



Austin Rover yesterday began shipping the first batch of 900 executive Rover 800 cars to the United States where they will be known as the Sterling and where dealers have promised to sell a minimum of 28,000 models during 1987.

They were due to leave Southampton last night on the car carrier Don Juan.

This first delivery is worth £15m and 150 US dollars appointed from 1,200 applicants will sell throughout the country.

The Sterling is being produced at the company's Cowley plant at Oxford. Over 2,000 cars will have left Britain for the USA by the end of this year.

(Photograph: Harry Kerr)

## Asian school governor fears Brent ghetto

Continued from page 1

Mr Hasani, who is 56, is an architect and planner. "I belong to no party," he says, "but I am not afraid." But yesterday he was wondering how long a "free man" could survive in Brent's political climate.

"I have just been to the school to congratulate Miss McGoldrick on her release from the turbulent situation that has surrounded her. But now I think that turbulence is about to be transferred to me..."

## Inquiry in new year on defence buying

Continued from page 1

other large scale procurement contracts within the Ministry of Defence to see what lessons can be learned for the future.

During the nine year development of the Nimrod, a decision to cancel, and save millions of pounds, could have been made during any of the five reviews, which were carried out. Despite the doubts, senior officials of the Ministry of Defence and GEC jointly voted to carry on.

## Asian school governor fears Brent ghetto

Continued from page 1

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## Stalker is to retire early from the force

Continued from page 1

First the police authority refused to bear the financial burden and then the Association of Chief Police Officers expressed their unwillingness to make any contribution.

It was only after Mr Stalker faced the alternative of selling his Cheshire home that his solicitor, Mr Rodger Pennone, waived the excess owed in legal fees after supporters raised about £4,000.

Mr Stalker's resignation was greeted with dismay by Mr Tony McCarell, chairman of the Greater Manchester Police Authority policy committee.

Mr Steve Murphy, police authority chairman, said: "I'm very sad to learn of his plans to retire because after living under a black cloud of suspicion for some months he was able to clear his name and I have looked forward to a long and mutually respectful relationship with someone I consider a fine policeman."

News of Mr Stalker's decision was broken to Detective Chief Supt Peter Topping, the man leading the Yorkshire Moors murder search at a lunchtime press conference. He said: "I am sad to hear it. It is sad to lose a valued colleague."

Greater Manchester Police Authority late yesterday accepted Mr Stalker's request to resign without discussion. They agreed he would be allowed to leave in March next year on his £33,000 a year post on full retirement pension.

Mr Ken Strath, a left-wing member of the authority, said that Mr Stalker had been driven from office and that a "oust Stalker campaign" had been mounted by disaffected members of Greater Manchester Police.

As he left the police authority meeting, Mr Anderson denied that any rift existed between him and his deputy and said that he was saddened by Mr Stalker's decision to resign.

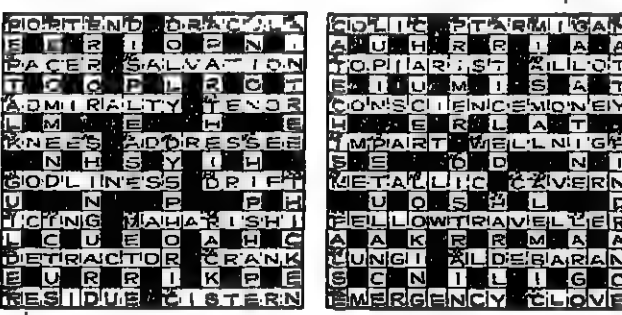
"However there are many fine officers always available to fill our jobs and I am sure we will find a suitable replacement," he said.

Anderson battle, page 2

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,234

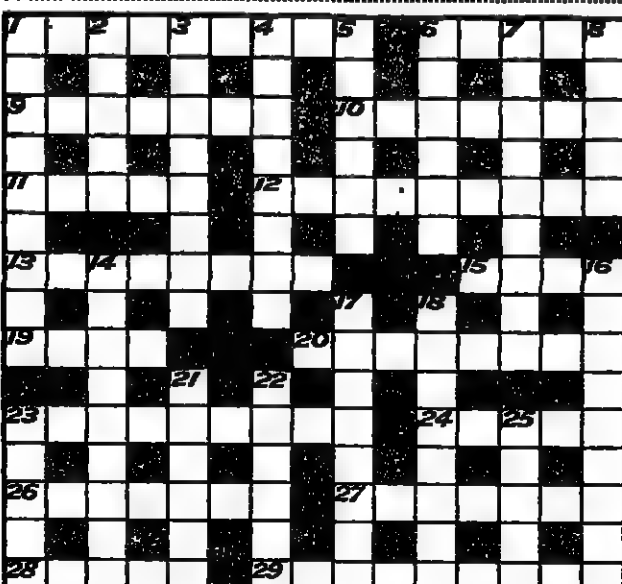
Solution to Puzzle No 17,228 Solution to Puzzle No 17,233



A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World will be given for the first five correct solutions open next Wednesday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: R. Calvey, Bradley Lane, Eccleston, Chorley, Lancs; H. Grenville, Forest Drive West, London E11; Mrs M F Horwill, Chiltern Rd, Hinchin, Herts; R. Lyle, Glynderi, Sennybridge, Brecon, Powys; K. Reed, c/o Mayfair Hotel, Esplanade, Scarborough, N Yorks.

Name: Address:



ACROSS

- 1 Equal financial reward when novice enters golf competition (5,4).
- 2 Girl on the piano - capital in Mediterranean island (5).
- 3 Most kindred are in the home (7).
- 4 Number 1 and several more find offensive (7).
- 5 Appropriate ceremonial form in speech (5).
- 6 Italian wine - not an unusual surprise (3,2,4).
- 7 Fat and wet (8).
- 8 Sounds so disgusted (4).
- 9 One still is first to make a snow man (4).
- 10 17th century girl straddles a horse (8).
- 11 Horror of man beset by weird spectre (3,6).
- 12 Fish - one caught inside grounds (5).
- 13 "In general" (1 quote) "That divides exactly" (7).
- 14 Palm-oil left out of bilberry pie (7).
- 15 Twisted, without head or arms (5).
- 16 Never mourn about one gone but not forgotten (9).

Jumbo Crossword page 12

### Today's events

New exhibitions

York Art Society Annual Exhibition: York City Art Gallery, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Jan 11).

Music

Bampton Singers Christmas Concert: St Mary's Church, Bampton, 7.30.

Vivaldi: Four Seasons: Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, 8.

Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in candlelight: Church of St James the Greater, Leicester, 6.30.

Family Concert of Carols and Christmas Music: Cambridge Philharmonic Society: The Corn Exchange, Wheeler St, Cambridge, 7.30.

Bolton Choral Union's Family Carol Concert: Victoria Hall, Bolton, 7.30.

The Chelmsford Singers Christmas Oratorio: Chelmsford Cathedral, 7.30.

English String Orchestra, Worcester Cathedral Choir, Malvern Priory, Worcester, 7.30.

Carol Concert: Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society, Wells, 7.00.

Bristol Choral Society: Colston Hall, Bristol, 7.30.

Bristol Bach Choir, St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 7.30.

Christmas Concert by the Abbey Choir and Gabrieli Brass Ensemble: Bath Abbey, Bath, 7.30.

Christmas by Candlelight: The Brigazzi, 72 Clyde St, Glasgow, 8.

On Christmas Night by Nigel Ford, St John's College Chapel, York, 3 and 7.

General

Santa Steam Specials, Bo'ness and Kinnell Railway, Union Street, Bo'ness, West Lothian, 11 to 4.

Tomorrow's events

Royal engagement

Princess Alexandra attends a gala tribute presented by the English National Opera to mark the retirement of Lord Goodman, CH, as Chairman of the Board at the London Coliseum, 7.15.

Music

Family Carols Concert: Bournemouth Sinfonietta and Symphony Chorus: Wessex Hall, Arts Centre, Poole, Dorset, 7.45.

Christmas Concert: The Eastbourne Sinfonia; Floral Hall, Winter Garden, Eastbourne, Sussex, 3.

Christmas Concert: Tiverton Amateur Operatic Society: Knightsbridge Court, Tiverton, Devon, 7.30.

Master Concerts Series: London Brass, Music from Renaissance Italy: Wilde Theatre, South Hill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell, Berks, 7.30.

### Roads

London and South-east

A404(M): Diversions at: Westway. Paddington, 6 with westbound closed to traffic today and tomorrow. West End Congestion caused by Christmas shopping. M20 Kent: Contraflow between junctions 7 and 8 near Maidstone.

Wales and the west: M5: Lane closures between junctions 28 and 30 (Cullompton/Exeter). A38: Delays and lane closures at the top of Haldon Hill between Exeter and Plymouth. A48: Delays, lane restrictions and contraflow between Llandaff and Cardiff.

The Midlands: M5: One lane open northbound between junctions 6 and 5 (Worcester N/Droitwich). The M5 will be closed between junctions 5 and 7 (Droitwich/Worcester) from Monday. A1: Contraflows N of Newark at Cromwell and Carlton-on-Trent. A5: Temporary lights E of Telford at Weston under Lizard.

The North: M1: Repair work between junctions 31 and 33 (Worship/Retford). A6: Diversions at junction of Chorley Rd and Moorfield Rd, Swinton. A19: Single lane traffic at Barby and Riccal bypass, N Yorkshire.

Scotland: M8 Glasgow: East-bound lane closed between junctions 17 and 15 (Kelvinside/Townhead). A82: Delays and lane restrictions S of Drumadrochit, Inverness-shire. A94 Angus: Bypass construction N of Forfar.

Information supplied by AA

Anniversaries

TODAY

Births: John Wilson Croker, politician and writer, Galway, 1805.

Deaths: John Steinbeck, New York, 1968.

TOMORROW

Births: Jean Racine, dramatist, La Ferté - Milon, France, 1639; Sir Joseph Whitworth, St. mechanical engineer, Stockport, 1803; Benjamin Disraeli, 1st Earl of Beaconsfield, Prime Minister 1868, 1874-80, London, 1804.

Deaths: Giovanni Battista, Cerdado, 1375; James Parkinson, physician, London, 1824; F. Scott Fitzgerald, novelist and short story writer, Hollywood, 1940; George Patton, American general, Heidelberg, 1945; Gladys Ripley, contralto, Chichester, 1955.

Airport delays

Air travellers can help reduce queues and delays at airports during the holiday period by carrying only one item of hand baggage.

Outward bound passengers are also advised not to wrap Christmas presents before flying as the wrappings may be removed during security checks.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: The Editor, The Times, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9DX.

THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1986 Printed by the Times Printers Limited, 1 Virginia Street, London E1, 124 Portman Street, London W1, 124 Portman Street, London W1, 124 Portman Street, London W1.

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

### The pound

Bank

Australia \$ 2.25 2.11

Canada \$ 1.35 1.25

Denmark Kr 8.78 8.28

France F 6.55 6.25

Germany DM 3.36 3.25

Italy L 1,936 1,880

Japan Yen 160 150

Netherlands Gld 3.20 3.10

Portugal Esc 200 190

Spain Ptas 166 155

Sweden Kr 10.32 9.77

Switzerland Fr 2.20 2.10

USA \$ 1.48 1.42

Yugoslavia Dnr 135 125

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 901.7

London: The FT Index closed up 1.5 at 1272.1.

Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* please see below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 25).

Start Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

1 +8 +5 +3 +2 +3 +2

2 +6 +2 +5 +4 +6

3 +11 +3 +2 +2 +2

4 +6 +4 +4 +4 +5

5 +9 +4 +4 +4 +4

6 +5 +3 +5 +3 +7

7 +4 +3 +5 +3 +7

8 +11 +3 +3 +3 +1

9 +5 +5 +5 +5 +5

10 +10 +3 +5 +1 +3

11 +6 +5 +2 +1 +3

12 +10 +6 +3 +2 +2

13 +6 +2 +4 +2 +7

14 +6 +4 +1 +5 +1

15 +6 +4 +5 +2 +4

16 +7 +5 +4 +2 +7

17 +6 +3 +2 +3 +3

18 +11 +3 +3 +2 +2

19 +5 +4 +2 +1 +3

20 +6 +4 +4 +4 +5

21 +8 +3 +5 +1 +5

22 +8 +2 +4 +3 +4

23 +8 +3 +6 +8 +5

24 +10 +4 +5 +1 +3

25 +5 +3 +5 +4 +2

26 +10 +5 +1 +3 +3

27 +7 +4 +3 +3 +3

28 +5 +5 +5 +2 +3

29 +6 +4 +1 +3 +2

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31 +7 +3 +4 +3 +5

32 +8 +4 +2 +5 +1

33 +6 +4 +4 +3 +4

34 +6 +4 +4 +3 +5

35 +10 +4 +3 +2 +3

36 +10 +4 +3 +2 +3

37 +7 +5 +3 +3 +3

38 +6 +4 +5 +2 +7

39 +8 +3 +3 +2 +4

40 +8 +3 +3 +2 +3

41 +7 +6 +3 +2 +4

42 +7 +6 +3 +2 +4

43 +8 +2 +5 +3 +2

44

### WEATHER

Cold, showery NW flow across Britain. A strong, cold NW wind will bring showers to many parts of the country. The most frequent and heaviest showers are likely to be in N and W areas of Scotland, parts of N Ireland, N and W coastal areas of England and Wales. Other areas will see showers interspersed with good sunny periods. The showers will fall as snow over all high ground, with drifting in the strong wind. Away from the coast, showers of sleet and snow are possible. During the evening, showers will continue near exposed coasts, but inland, as long clear periods develop, a widespread frost will occur. Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Remaining cold and showery, with a risk of longer spells of snow in N and some E areas. Widespread night frosts.

TODAY

Sun clear: 9.00 am

Moon sets: 11.11 am

Next quarter December 24

TOMORROW

Sun clear: 8.04 am

Moon sets: 11.27 am

Next quarter December 24

LIGHTING-UP TIME

TODAY

London 4.26 pm to 7.34 am

Bristol 4.30 pm to 7.40 am

Edinburgh 4.10 pm to 8.13 am

Manchester 4.21 pm to 7.53 am

Perth 4.52 pm to 7.49 am

TOMORROW

London 4.26 pm to 7.34 am

Bristol 4.30 pm to 7.44 am

Edinburgh 4.10 pm to 8.13 am

Manchester 4.21 pm to 7.53 am



SATURDAY DECEMBER 20 1986

Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1272.1 (+1.5)  
FT-SE 100  
1632.2 (+1.6)  
Bargains  
31646 (30087)  
USM (Datastream)  
128.86 (-0.42)  
THE POUND  
US Dollar  
1.4325 (+0.0030)  
W German mark  
2.8729 (+0.0025)  
Trade-weighted  
68.6 (+0.1)

Japanese  
licences  
for firms

Three British companies, Morgan Grenfell, Midland Bank and James Capel, have been awarded branch licences to operate as securities businesses in Japan.

Morgan Grenfell said that its branch should open in April. Midland Bank's licence has been awarded to its Samuel Montagu Securities offshoot. James Capel has representative status in Japan. The new licence will enable it to upgrade its operations to branch status.

Siebe agrees  
Ranco deal

Siebe has agreed to acquire Ranco for \$40 (£27.97) per share in cash, valuing Ranco at about \$150 million. The acquisition will be effected through a merger of IR Acquisition Corp, a US subsidiary of Siebe, with Ranco.

Below target

A £3.55 million provision against property developments in Britain and the US depressed pre-tax profits from Guinness Peat, the financial services group, for the year to end-September. They were at a lower-than-expected £18 million, compared with £17.6 million in 1984-85.

Heath acts

C E Heath, the insurance broking group hit by top management resignations, moved to restore confidence yesterday by announcing five new main-board directors, four from Fielding Insurance, the fellow Lloyd's broker whose merger with C E Heath was followed by the defection of 28 senior staff.

No referrals

British & Commonwealth Shipping's proposed acquisition of Steel Brothers Holdings and of Exco International are not being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Profit rises

Stainless Metacraft, the fabricator of stainless aluminium and exotic metals in the medical, nuclear and aerospace industries, increased pre-tax profits for the year to end-August from £0.6 million to just over £1 million. A final dividend of 2.5p makes a total of 4.5p for the year.

No sale

Associated British Ports will not buy Sealink's ports at Heysham, Newhaven and Parkington Quay, Harwich, after preliminary talks failed to produce an agreement on financial terms.

Traded Opts	22	Stock Market	23
Money Mkts	22	Temp	23
Foreign Exch	22	Unit Trsts	24
Wall Street	22	Commodities	24
Co News	23	USM Prices	24
Comment	23	Share Prices	25

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	1918.45 (+5.63)*
Dow Jones	25
Nikkei	16930.03 (+208.31)
Hong Kong	2463.81 (+41.59)
Hang Seng	220.8 (+2.5)
Amsterd Gen	1456.8 (+0.3)
Sydney AO	2036.7 (+8.6)
Frankfurt	4034.98 (-30.58)
General	410.9 (+0.9)
Paris CAC	550.0 (-0.7)
Zurich S&K Gen	116
London FT A	82.32 (+0.13)
FT. Glits	Page 25

INTEREST RATES	
London: Bank Base: 11%	
3-month interbank 11% 11/16%	
3-month Treasury Bills 5.59-5.57%	
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 1/4%	
US: Prime Rate 7 1/2%	
Federal Funds 6 1/4%	
3-month Treasury 5.59-5.57%	
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 1/4%	

CURRENCIES	
London:	New York:
\$1.4325	\$1.4327
DM2.8729	DM2.8729
FF6.5787	FF6.5787
Yen233.64	Yen233.64
Index: 88.6	Index: 110.8
ECU 20.724223	SDR 16.840721

Guinness's 'gesture of confidence'

Boesky £70m  
not short term

By Richard Lander

Mr Ivan Boesky's arbitrage partnership in which the Guinness group held a major stake was not a vehicle suitable for the short-term placing of funds, according to other participants in the fund.

On Thursday, a Guinness spokesman likened the £69.8 million investment in the fund last May to "putting money in the bank".

He said the funds were placed there because of doubts about sterling and in anticipation of a commercial acquisition in the United States within a six to 18-month period.

However last night he said: "It was not intended to create the impression that those funds would be available for an acquisition in short period of time. It was seen as being a safe and profitable haven for the funds and was a gesture of confidence in Mr Boesky who was seen to be important in our plans in the United States".

The investment in the Boesky partnership had the full backing of the Guinness board. The four independent non-executive directors who subsequently joined the board in August were not available for comment last night.

However sources at other companies that made much smaller investments said they understood the partnership, which specialised in corporate arbitrage speculation, was intended to have a five-year life.

As the largest limited partner with more than 10 per cent of the \$900 million (£629.4 million) partnership, Guinness could not be expected to have a right to withdraw its funds at short notice.

"I don't think that as a limited partner one had any right to withdraw funds. I don't believe a fund of that nature could be organized on any other basis," said a senior

executive at another company which invested in the Boesky partnership.

Among those that took small stakes in the Boesky vehicle were Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron group, the Water Authorities Superannuation Fund, Commercial Union and J Henry Schroder Wagg, the merchant bank.

Guinness said it did not publicly disclose the investment in May because it did not regard the move as an acquisition.

Guinness shares, which slumped 19p to 280p on Thursday, slipped to 277p in early trading yesterday but recovered to close 4p higher on balance. Business was active again with 6.7 million shares changing hands.

Guinness announced yesterday that it had agreed to sell the former headquarters of Distillers for £30.4 million cash to the London & Metropolitan property group.

£50m Big Bang  
boost for BZW

By Alexandra Jackson

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the securities arm of Barclays Bank, is to receive a capital injection of £50 million to fund international expansion and to respond to the substantial increase in business since Big Bang in October.

In line with a statement made earlier in the year, Barclays Bank is to draw down £50 million for use in its securities business.

This is the last tranche of a total current capital commitment made by the clearing bank of £250 million.

Lord Camoys, chief executive of Barclays de Zoete Wedd Holdings, said: "The increase in our capital base reflects Barclays' confidence in BZW."

The money would be used to increase the group's international presence, especially in New York and Tokyo.

Parts of Barclays de Zoete Wedd have been behind the competition in setting up operations in overseas markets, so now BZW has to do some catching up.

Commenting on the capital requirements of the securities operation, Lord Camoys said: "We are paying \$17 million for Wall Street Clearing, a US discount broker, which will operate independently of our existing securities operation in New York."

In addition, we expect to get a licence in Tokyo in the second quarter of next year. This will require us to have a capital base of about £10 million.

He added: "It is probable that £50 million could be needed to expand the business next year. Further capital injections will be made as necessary to meet future growth."

£600m foreigners' tap

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England announced yesterday that it is issuing £600 million of 2 1/2 per cent index-linked stock, with a maturity date of 2024. The stock will be free of tax to foreigners, the first time this has applied to an index-linked stock.

The funding announcement was notable in several respects. The new stock will have the longest maturity of any British government stock.

It comes when there are worries about an increase in inflation in Britain, where foreign interest in the gilt market, in particular, has been muted, with investors concerned about the consequences for inflation if the Conservatives lose the election.

The PSBR of £5.7 billion for the first eight months of the year was overfunded by £0.1 billion. The new stock is payable £30 at tender, on December 30, and the remainder on February 10, where it will help to cover redemptions of existing stock.

The announcement of funding in the index-linked sector helped the conventional market yesterday. Prices recovered by around half a point.

EEC takes Japanese tax issue to Gatt

No end to whisky war

By Derek Harris

EEC negotiators yesterday rejected as inadequate Japanese offers to curb taxation on imported wines and spirits, among which Scotch whisky has been the main victim. It is now to take the dispute to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), the world trade body.

A growing row between the EEC and Japan has pivoted on whisky. The EEC wanted Japan to end all discrimination against it and apply the same treatment to other liquor imports.

Scotch has assumed a symbolic significance in the drawn-out talks because if the Japanese gave way on the issue it could improve the chances of opening up the Japanese market to other imports.

The EEC is expected to press Gatt strongly on the issue because the European liquor producers' case has looked the easiest to argue since the discrimination was so flagrant.

Japan is the third biggest overseas market for Scotch. But since 1979 Scotch sales to Japan have shrunk by more than a third and its share of



Koji Watanabe: no specific offer on liquor tariffs

the Japanese market has gone down from 10 per cent to 6 per cent.

Last year, Scotch exports, including those of bulk malt which Japanese producers use in blends, were down 29 per cent in volume. In the first nine months of this year, there has been only a partial recovery with shipments up 18 per cent compared with the same period last year.

The EEC executive commission said when the talks broke up that it wanted Gatt to argue for fairer tax laws in Japan, especially for whisky.

The statement came after a meeting between Mr Willy de



Dr Otaiba of the UAE arriving for the final talks

Fimbra  
suspends  
dealer

By Cliff Feltham

Fimbra, the watchdog body for licensed share dealers, has suspended the second member company within the last week after complaints over its share dealing activities.

The latest company hit by the crackdown is Financial Management Services which has offices in London and Nottingham.

Fimbra, the self-regulating organization with 1,500 members, said last night: "We are not happy with the way the company is being run and would like to know exactly who its owners are. We need to know whether they are fit and proper persons."

Besides the suspension, Fimbra has imposed tough restrictions on the financial activities of the company. It has ordered it not to solicit business with the public unless the employee is a member of Fimbra, ordered it to lodge all clients' money in a separate bank account, and has given it five working days to prove that its liquidity margins comply with Fimbra rules.

Financial Management Services has seven days in which to ask for the affair to be considered by the ruling council of Fimbra.

Last week, another company, Michelin & Co (UK), was suspended. It is understood that investors who bought shares through the company later found it difficult to resell them.

Clerk, the EEC external relations commissioner, and Mr Koji Watanabe, director of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's economic affairs bureau.

The Japanese had offered to cut tariffs on imported liquor next April but not by any specific amount - which it wanted to establish later, according to reports in Britain.

There is speculation that the Japanese ministry wanted to make a 50 per cent across-the-board reduction although bitter opposition from Japanese drinks producers was thought likely to whittle this down to a 30 per cent cut.

There were suggestions also that the Japanese might be prepared to consider changing their present classification of liquor into three grades. This has been the target of most criticism from bodies like the Scotch Whisky Association, because it means the Japanese excise tax on Scotch is twice as high as that on first-grade whisky produced locally and seven times more than that on Japanese second-grade spirit.

There are reports that because of the discriminatory tax system, Scotch whisky bottled in Britain can cost up to £60 a bottle in Japan.

Opec may leave  
Iraq out of  
oil agreement

By Teresa Poole

Oil prices firmed yesterday as Opec ministers, meeting in Geneva, appeared to be near agreement on production cut-backs which would reduce output by 7.25 per cent to 15.8 million barrels a day.

Mr Rikman Lukman of Nigeria and Opec president, spent the ninth day of the conference seeking approval from other oil ministers on the text of a final communiqué which would be presented to a full conference.

It appeared that the production cuts had been accepted by all members except Iraq but that a formula had to be reached about that country's refusal to accept its quota.

However, delegates said problems over fixing differentials for Opec curbs were holding up a full ministerial session planned for last night.

Progress has been stalled all week because of Iraq's refusal to accept a quota of 1.466 million barrels per day when its Gulf war adversary, Iran, has been given 2.253 million barrels per day. However, it appeared last night as though the accord would be finalized without Iraq's support.

Gholamreza Azgadeh, the Iranian oil minister, yesterday said publicly for the first time that Opec should consider suspending Iran if it failed to abide by the group's decision and there were reports that Iraq might be given a month to reconsider.

As oil markets anticipated an agreement, one cargo of

Brent for delivery in February was traded at \$16.90 compared with the previous night's New York close of \$16.20.

Prices eased slightly later in the day with February Brent up about 40 cents at \$16.60. In New York, West Texas Intermediate for March delivery at one point breached \$17 a barrel but then fell back.

Traders were hopeful that an Opec accord would support the present oil price level, aided by confirmation from Mexico and Norway that both countries would reduce crude output in line with any Opec agreement.

Mr Arne Oeien, the Norwegian oil minister, said his country was prepared to cut its oil output by eight to nine per cent from January, to achieve a 10 per cent reduction in oil exports.

A spokesman for the Department of Energy in London said: "The British Government's policy regarding production cuts is well known. We do not intend to change our policy which is to leave the level of production to the judgment of the oil companies operating in the British sector of the North Sea." Comment, page 23

American buy

Scottish Heritable Trust is buying Haven Homes, a private American company, for \$6 million (£4.2 million).

New chief for the IMF

Leading a struggle for unity

From Bailey Morris Washington

M Michel Camdessus, the new managing director of the International Monetary Fund, faces a formidable task in unifying the powerful agency after the bitter battle in the run-up to his election.

Officials in Washington said yesterday there was resentment among some supporters of the Dutch finance minister, Mr Onno Ruding, who was narrowly defeated.

Third World countries regard M Camdessus as more sympathetic to their plight than Mr Ruding. They are expecting a more lenient, creative approach to the high interest costs and lack of growth which plague their countries.

The final vote by the IMF's executive board was regarded as a victory for Third World countries and a defeat for European ministers who were unable to agree for the first



M Camdessus: Creative approach expected

results of a straw poll taken among European ministers who failed to agree on a candidate.

The ministers gave Mr Ruding a majority of their votes even though they were unable to reach consensus.

The final vote by the IMF's executive board was regarded as a victory for Third World countries and a defeat for European ministers who were unable to agree for the first

time since the institution was founded. The deadlock among Europeans, who have traditionally appointed one of their own to the top IMF position, means that other nations, notably Japan, have a good chance at breaking the link when M Camdessus' term expires in five years time.

Meanwhile, Mr Ruding, who withdrew his candidacy after the straw vote was taken in Washington, remains chairman of the IMF's powerful interim committee.

Both men, regarded as highly qualified international civil servants, have pledged to work together in moving the IMF into a more active role in resolving the long-simmering debt crisis.

M Camdessus, who is associated closely with French socialists, brings extensive knowledge of the debt crisis to his new job.

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The Seminar fee, inclusive of refreshments and VAT, is £45 payable in advance. All attending delegates will receive a comprehensive guide to authorisation. Tickets purchased more than 21 days prior to the appropriate Seminar date will benefit from a discount of £5 per ticket.

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1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* contents were determined by spectrophotometry using the method of Lichtenthaler and Whistler (1987). The total chlorophyll content was calculated using the following formula:

Detailed description of Figure 1: The graph plots the percentage of total energy expenditure (TEE) for six activities over a 24-hour period. The Y-axis represents 'Percentage of TEE' from 0 to 100. The X-axis represents 'Time of Day' from 0 to 24. The activities and their approximate TEE percentages are: Sleeping (blue line, ~40-50%), Resting (green line, ~10-20%), Sitting (red line, ~10-20%), Standing (orange line, ~10-20%), Walking (yellow line, ~10-20%), and Running (purple line, ~10-20%). Sleeping is the dominant activity at night, while Running is the most energy-intensive activity during the day.

Time of Day	Sleeping	Resting	Sitting	Standing	Walking	Running
0	40	10	10	10	10	10
4	50	10	10	10	10	10
8	40	10	10	10	10	10
12	30	10	10	10	10	20
16	20	10	10	10	10	20
20	10	10	10	10	10	20
24	40	10	10	10	10	10

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Mr. Green  
Mr. M

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are illiterate has increased from 1.2 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of illiterate people in the world is expected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015. The number of illiterate people in the world is expected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015.

W. F. Frost and  
C. D. Foster to  
Cameron Moore.



(STOCK MARKET)

# Fresh selling in stores sector points to a bleak New Year

By Michael Clark

There was precious little festive spirit in the stores sector yesterday to cheer investors with many brokers now warning their clients that the prospects for a prosperous New Year in the high street are growing slimmer each day. Many of the best known names among the retailers came under renewed selling pressure with only the appearance of a few bargain hunters enabling prices to close above their worst levels of the day.

Analysts are continuing to take an increasingly pessimistic view of things despite reports of bumper Christmas sales. Most of them have already discounted the better-than-expected November retail sales announced on Monday showing a 2.4 per cent rise.

They claim the economic outlook remains bearish for stores. Most economists are already predicting a rise in inflation and this combined with fears of higher interest rates after Christmas and less scope for cuts in income tax in the Budget could lead to a sharp reduction in spending in the shops.

The problems facing the retailers were no doubt discussed in full at a seasonal consumer party thrown by Scrimgeour Vickers, the broker, and attended by representatives of the leading store groups, food retailers and various major fund managers.

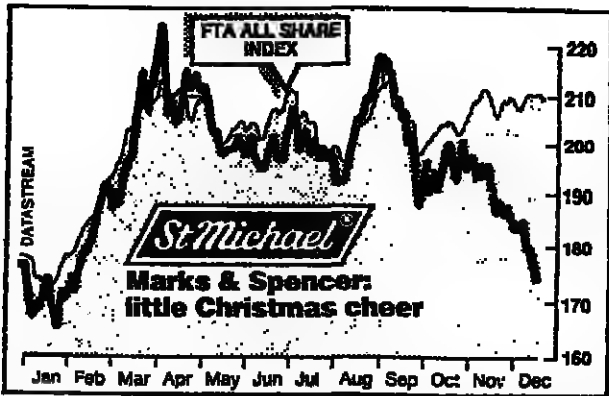
Market-makers have reported widespread and persistent selling of the store shares over the past few days.

Among the casualties was Marks & Spencer, often referred to as the jewel in the high street crown, which, at one stage, was trading just 1.5p above its 167p low for the year as one big seller unloaded 5.3 million shares at 167p.

A number of leading brokers have been downgrading their profit forecasts for the present year to March 31. Last week James Capel, the broker, trimmed its estimate by £5 million to £410 million.

There were also rumours circulating in the market last night that one broker is claiming around 202p, analysts had been pinning their hopes on a final figure as high as £425 million. The price finished 2p lower at 172p with 11 million shares traded.

Meanwhile, Harris Queensway, the carpets and furnishings group, lost an early lead to close 1p cheaper at 203p, after 205p. James Capel has downgraded its forecast for the present year by £3 million to £46 million as a result of the dull conditions. That compares with the £36.8 million Queensway earned last year.



On Thursday, James Capel reduced its estimate for Sears, the William Hill betting shops to £185 million. Other downgrades are expected to follow. Sears finished 1.5p lower at 117p with 6.5 million shares changing hands.

Dixons remained a dull market losing a further 2p to 306p, after 300p, for a loss on the week 1.4p. Some dealers are fearful that Dixons may be dragged into the recent Woolworth telephone tapping affair. The case came to light last month after police discovered that the home telephone of one of Woolworth's executives was being illegally tapped.

Grand Metropolitan, the drinks, hotel and leisure group, enjoyed some heavy turnover yesterday with 13 million shares changing hands. There has been talk about a mysterious buyer building up a near 5 per cent stake and one broker matched up a seller of 5 million shares at 452p.

## ALPHA STOCKS

These prices are as at 6.45pm

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Div	Yld	P/E	1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Div	Yld	P/E					
				Mid	Offr	Chrg						Mid	Offr	Chrg						
385	283	283	Allied-Lyons	306	310	+	+2	14.5	4.7	14.1	2,100	111	734	Imp Chem Ind	104	104	48.8	4.8	18.0	1,400
174	188	188	ASDA-MPI	145	149	+	+1	4.5	8.1	18.1	2,500	395	395	Jaguar	515	516	12.7	2.5	10.5	80
386	341	341	BTR	287	287	+	+	8.8	3.7	18.5	2,400	391	312	Land Rover	385	371	16.8	4.5	17.8	358
481	481	481	BAT	480	485	+	+	18.4	4.0	18.1	507	340	376	Land Securities	327	330	14.5	4.4	22.0	1,400
572	448	448	Barclays	486	502	+	+	28.1	5.8	7.2	1,300	285	132	Legal & Gen	345	345	12.5	5.0	31.1	200
440	425	425	Bass	720	730	+	+	24.3	3.4	18.8	332	484	484	Loxley	483	487	25.0	5.7	7.0	1,200
440	384	384	Bentley	430	436	+	+	17.1	8.8	18.0	3,700	323	188	Lloyds	322	323	17.1	7.4	11.5	935
728	336	336	Blue Circle	300	300	+	+	30.0	4.5	18.8	358	251	183	Marks & Spencer	167	171	5.5	3.4	28.5	1,500
385	385	385	BOC	359	362	+	+	15.4	4.3	14.1	516	339	417	Midland	399	371	37.1	8.5	21.1	394
289	170	170	Books	222	225	+	+	10.6	4.7	14.6	2,900	393	425	Nat West	518	522	27.6	5.3	5.4	386
626	423	423	Br Aerospace	427	422	+	+	23.4	4.8	10.3	910	578	426	P & O Ltd	488	482	25.4	5.4	14.9	838
386	61	61	Br Gas	67	67	+	+	9.5	14.9	17.7	200	308	388	Platinum	688	678	15.4	3.7	18.0	3,000
710	630	630	Br Petroleum	700	705	+	+	48.6	1.8	11.5	8,500	392	385	Plowright Bros	649	650	21.0	4.3	17.2	1,500
280	177	177	Br Telecom	804	806	+	+	11.2	8.4	18.0	7,250	348	182	Plowright	174	178	7.2	4.1	12.9	5,800
180	98	98	Britoil	185	187	+	+	9.5	5.6	4.5	4,100	942	718	Procter	796	805	38.6	4.8	22.9	205
384	252	252	Burton	258	252	+	+	8.1	3.1	14.8	1,300	234	148	Recall Elect	172	174	4.3	2.5	18.3	1,700
385	277	277	Cable & Wireless	318	325	+	+	7.2	2.2	17.7	1,500	488	321	Reckitt Ben	328	328	12.1	5.4	18.5	245
180	180	180	Cardbury Schweppes	180	188	+	+	0.7	4.6	21.2	2,400	800	805	Reckitt & Coleman	889	840	23.9	2.8	18.1	218
484	426	426	Costa Vytas	425	470	+	+	17.8	8.8	14.0	844	884	346	Reunert	887	888	8.4	1.0	42.2	1,100
386	408	408	Corn Union	389	385	+	+	8.2	1.8	18.1	1,212	900	884	Reunert	880	884	31.4	4.8	8.5	228
704	408	408	Corn Goldfields	365	372	+	+	36.5	4.3	20.0	1,000	392	388	Reunert	388	388	18.0	4.6	10.8	1,800
380	252	252	Courtauld	310	313	+	+	10.2	3.3	10.5	435	967	782	Royal Ind	830	835	38.5	4.8	28.8	800
290	201	201	Dies Corp	200	205	+	+	10.6	5.2	18.4	1,400	488	344	Stainless (A)	428	410	8.4	2.1	28.5	825
484	318	318	Dixons	302	308	+	+	4.3	1.4	21.8	4,100	118	117	Stainless	118	117	8.0	4.3	18.0	8,000
384	408	408	Picnic	389	385	+	+	8.2	1.8	18.1	1,212	488	344	Stainless (B)	428	410	8.4	2.1	28.5	825
954	701	701	Gen Accident	705	800	+	+13	34.3	4.3	20.0	1,000	977	653	Shul	650	670	31.4	5.3	8.5	588
228	188	188	GSC	188	172	+	+	8.8	3.7	10.8	3,100	132	98	Smith & Nephew	120	121	3.5	2.9	80.8	6,800
111	758	758	Glass	104	104	+	+	20.0	1.9	21.8	2,700	174	96	STC	168	171	2.1	1.2	18.9	1,700
440	384	384	Grand Marni	480	488	+	+	14.8	3.2	13.1	3,000	178	167	Stn Chart	168	167	44.4	6.4	3.7	148
111	721	721	GUS 'A'	10	10	+	+	30.0	3.0	14.0	918	385	359	Storehouse	385	380	11.0	4.8	12.8	1,800
774	720	720	GRE	780	787	+	+	43.5	5.6	22.1	288	772	620	San Antonio	620	625	27.5	4.3	37.0	1,200
385	353	353	GN	358	355	+	+	17.9	8.9	8.8	778	814	724	TSE FFP	724	737	8.1	6.4	11.1	1,100
385	274	274	Guanaco	289	285	+	+	11.8	4.1	10.7	870	420	414	Tesco	414	414	2.0	4.1	10.7	1,400
215	141	141	Nanion	185	185	+	+	8.1	3.3	11.8	18,000	528	374	Thorn EMI	484	487	25.0	5.4	54.1	674
623	408	408	Hawker Siddeley	484	427	+	+	21.4	5.0	9.4	540	349	206	Trafalgar House	289	280	16.9	7.3	9.7	1,400

## TEMPUS

# Return of the Saatchi poise

Fund managers who sold Saatchi & Saatchi shares at 570p in September must be kicking themselves now. With the benefit of that most priceless of gifts, 20/20 hindsight, they were nothing less than a steal when they hit that low point after a spell in free fall.

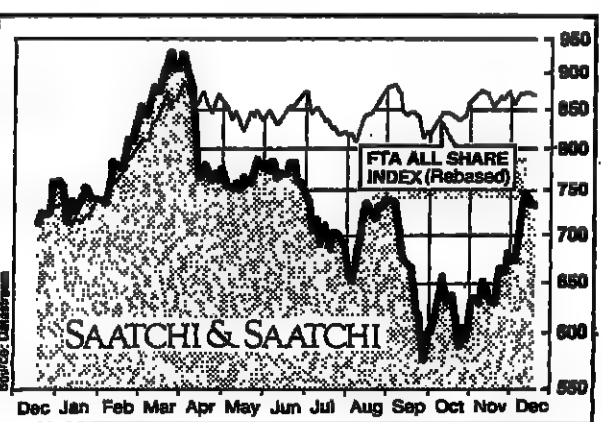
They crashed from a high point of 930p before the rights issue and the purchase of the Ted Bates agency in the US, a deal which made Saatchi the biggest advertising group in the world.

The damage was done by two factors. First the size of the rights issue, £406 million, was big enough to make even the staunchest fans pause for thought. Then came the inevitable shakeout of clients who found that there were conflicts and overlaps when the two companies were merged.

Billings worth hundreds of millions went through the door in search of other agencies. The defectors were hugely publicised because the advertising world makes its living by poaching business and responds almost hysterically to routine movements of major clients.

Few noticed that all the while, the group was winning new business, too.

Since the announcement of the 1985-6 preliminary fig-



ures, Saatchi shares have recovered their poise splendidly and are now comfortably above the 700p level where they still look to have plenty of steam left.

This year looks set for further strong profits growth of around 60 per cent to perhaps £115 million. Earnings growth will be more modest due to the increase in capital this year. But with close on 60p of earnings expected by most analysts, the shares are selling on a market average price earnings ratio.

This looks too mean for a company with Saatchi's resilience and growth potential, especially in the field of consultancy.

## Stainless Metalcraft

Increasing profits by 77 per cent is an impressive achievement except when it represents a recovery to the levels of four years ago. In its short life as a public company, Stainless Metalcraft has experienced a wide range of problems although most of them are now history.

The market has only recently begun to regain confidence in this precision instrument and component manufacturer. The shares are now over the 200p mark, having been as low as 55p last year and having come to the market in 1983 at 120p. Management problems are

also behind the group, although Stainless Metalcraft has the unenviable reputation of having had three chairmen in as many years.

Life is now looking brighter. The order book contains firm work to the end of the current year worth £8 million compared with £4.5 million this time last year. This includes a contract from British Nuclear Fuels worth £3 million before the cost of materials. Although the order book is boosted by companies bought during the year, the underlying businesses are also growing.

In 1985-86, medical work accounted for 70 per cent of turnover. However, Stainless Metalcraft is keen to reduce the contribution from the medical division as a proportion of the whole while not reducing its absolute contribution.

Roger Hardman of the stockbroker James Capel, believes that Stainless Metalcraft will make at least £1.7 million this year rising to £2.1 million in 1987-88.

The shares are currently selling on under 11 times earnings - a modest rating given the unique nature of the business and the improved outlook. However, the dividend payment was a little miserly considering the loyalty afforded to the shares



Peter Brighton  
John Mowlem: Mr Geoffrey Bayles joins the board.  
Nationwide Building Society: Mr Christopher Weston becomes a director.  
Save & Prosper Investment

# Managing director for BAe division

British Aerospace: Mr Peter Brighton is to be managing director of a new naval and electronics system division to be formed on January 1. Mr A O H Gale is to be deputy managing director and projects director.  
Stormgard: Mr George H Moore has been appointed group financial director.  
Hill Samuel: Mr Michael Mander has been appointed to the board.  
Chemical Bank: The company has restructured its mortgage group and set up a wholly owned subsidiary company. Chemical Bank Home Loans. The Chairman is Mr James M Frost, and the Managing Director is Mr David Cameron-Moore.

Midland Bank: Mr Stewart Gager has been appointed group risk management director.  
Cement-Roadstone Holdings: Mr Tony Barry is appointed deputy chief executive of the group.  
Apricot Computers: Mr Peter Horne and Mr Mike Winn are joining the board.  
Nicholson, Graham & Jones: Mr John Edgar and Mr David Race join the partnership on January 1.  
BASF: Dr Dietmar Werner, head of the fibres division, joins the main board.  
Investors in Industry Group: Mr Ralph Nicholas Quartano will join the board as a non-executive director on January 1.

Management: Mr Martin Lister is to become a director.  
Rentalls: Mr Andrew Noble joins the board as a non-executive director in February.  
Ocean Transport & Trading: Mr Nicholas Barber will become chief executive on January 1. Mr Peter Marshall will become non-executive chairman at the AGM in May.  
Lazard Brothers: Mr Douglas Bushell, Mr Gerald Craig-McFeely, Mr Christopher Fisher, Mrs Frances Heaton, Mr Gordon Johns and Mr Charles Packshaw will be appointed executive directors on January 1. Mr Andrew Sharper will be appointed an assistant director on January 5.

## COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

# The Bank holds out a £600 million carrot

The sobering funding operation, expected on December 24, came yesterday afternoon. The Bank of England launched £600 million of a new index-linked stock with a maturity date of 2024, which not only exceeds the longest dated existing stock by four years, but stretches to a time when even the Young Turks in the City will be drawing their pensions.

It has a 2½ per cent coupon, and most significantly it is a FoTra (free of tax to residents abroad) stock, the first index-linked stock to be so defined.

Put all this together, and it looks a logical way for the Chancellor to begin a campaign to attract capital to this country. The foreigner has been scared away from the gilts market by fears that the general election will do terrible things to British inflation - either because the Conservatives reflate too much ahead of it, or Labour reflate even more after it.

The run of trade deficits in prospect over the next few months means that prophecies of a sterling crisis could easily become self-fulfilling. Some long-term inflows into the gilts market from abroad would clearly help offset current account outflows.

And so, as well as offering a hedge of nearly 40 years against whatever the politicians might do to inflation in Britain, the new stock offers the foreigner the carrot of a tax-free real return of more than 3½ per cent. It also keeps the funding momentum

going, with £30 for each £100 of stock payable on tender on December 30, and the remainder in February. But will this particular turkey fly?

The agreement that Opec has been struggling to put together in Geneva could do a lot for perceptions, particularly from abroad, about the gilts market. It could lay the ghost of a January sterling crisis once and for all, although with each day that Opec has struggled on, its deliberations have lost a little bit more market credibility.

Even so, as John Sheppard of Warburg Securities, says, the clear foreign bias in this piece of funding could make it a reasonably successful "Opec Settlement" stock. On the other hand, it could also be the Opec flop stock.

Looking further out, it is doubtful if foreign interest in the gilts market can be sustained merely by offering hedges against British inflation. The conventional market is already offering a substantial inflation hedge, but foreign buyers have been notable for their absence in recent weeks.

Stephen Lewis, at Phillips & Drew, takes the view that when inflation in Britain rises, sterling will fall, and the index-linked sector, tax free or otherwise, will have little to commend it to overseas institutions.

But perhaps the time has come to begin taking a gamble on the idea that most of sterling's fall is behind us.

# Opec's real task lies ahead

While Opec ministers wrangle over the practicalities and the politics of cutting production by 7.25 per cent to 15.8 million barrels a day, analysts in London were not convinced that, even if it sticks, such a deal would make a substantial impact on the price of crude.

Over the summer months of 1986, before the voluntary production ceiling of 17 million barrels a day was agreed, Opec had turned on the taps and was producing more than 21 million barrels a day. This allowed oil companies to build up a high level of stocks at attractively low prices.

Estimates of the present level of excess stocks, which will have to be mopped up over the next few months, vary between 200 million and 300 million barrels of oil. Some estimates go as high as 500 million barrels.

Will the cutbacks be sufficient to force prices towards the target level of \$18 a barrel?

The breakdown of quotas circulating among Opec delegates yesterday suggested that the 15.8 million barrel-a-day total may exclude the 300,000 barrel-a-day production from the neutral zone between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The

zone provides the revenue for the "war relief" given to Iraq.

The proposals appeared to assign a quota to Iraq of 1,466 million barrels a day, compared with present output of 1.7 million and potential output by the end of 1987 of a further 1 million barrels a day. Production for 1987 will be boosted as capacity is increased on the Petrolina pipeline to the Red Sea and oil begins to flow down the new pipeline through Turkey to the Mediterranean.

James Capel, the stockbroker, estimates that world demand for Opec crude in the first quarter of 1987 will be about 19 million barrels a day. This would mean a draw-down of stocks of up to 3 million barrels a day. But the second quarter demand is likely to see a seasonal downturn to less than 17 million barrels a day.

Nevertheless, assuming Opec members stick to their quotas, much of the excess oil could be used up over the next six months. This would, at the very least, give support for the present price.

But Opec has six months of hard work ahead of it to convince the oil market that it intends to stick to the agreement. If prices do continue to firm the temptation to cheat will return.

# J. Rothschild Holdings plc

## 10 YEARS OF CONSISTENT GROWTH

31 March	Net assets per share pence	Dividends per share pence	Net assets £ million
1976	28.2	0.79	32.6
1977	34.8	0.88	39.9
1978	44.1	1.15	51.3
1979	58.1	1.45	80.2
1980	66.5	1.89	99.4
1981	76.7	2.20	122.3
1982	79.3	2.47	126.3
1983	110.1	2.91	232.4
1984	115.5	3.32	439.1
1985	125.2	4.56	543.6
<b>1986</b>	<b>163.5</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>603.5</b>
30 September 1986			
<b>Half year</b>	<b>171.5</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>615.3</b>



# INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

1991 High Low Company Bid Offer Change Day P/E										1991 High Low Company Bid Offer Change Day P/E											
129	185	Alcoa	189	188	189	188	189	188	189	129	185	Alcoa	189	188	189	188	189	188	189	129	
130	186	Alcoa	190	189	190	189	190	189	190	130	186	Alcoa	190	189	190	189	190	189	190	130	
131	187	Alcoa	191	190	191	190	191	190	191	131	187	Alcoa	191	190	191	190	191	190	191	131	
132	188	Alcoa	192	191	192	191	192	191	192	132	188	Alcoa	192	191	192	191	192	191	192	132	
133	189	Alcoa	193	192	193	192	193	192	193	133	189	Alcoa	193	192	193	192	193	192	193	133	
134	190	Alcoa	194	193	194	193	194	193	194	134	190	Alcoa	194	193	194	193	194	193	194	134	
135	191	Alcoa	195	194	195	194	195	194	195	135	191	Alcoa	195	194	195	194	195	194	195	135	
136	192	Alcoa	196	195	196	195	196	195	196	136	192	Alcoa	196	195	196	195	196	195	196	136	
137	193	Alcoa	197	196	197	196	197	196	197	137	193	Alcoa	197	196	197	196	197	196	197	137	
138	194	Alcoa	198	197	198	197	198	197	198	138	194	Alcoa	198	197	198	197	198	197	198	138	
139	195	Alcoa	199	198	199	198	199	198	199	139	195	Alcoa	199	198	199	198	199	198	199	139	
140	196	Alcoa	200	199	200	199	200	199	200	140	196	Alcoa	200	199	200	199	200	199	200	140	
141	197	Alcoa	201	200	201	200	201	200	201	141	197	Alcoa	201	200	201	200	201	200	201	141	
142	198	Alcoa	202	201	202	201	202	201	202	142	198	Alcoa	202	201	202	201	202	201	202	142	
143	199	Alcoa	203	202	203	202	203	202	203	143	199	Alcoa	203	202	203	202	203	202	203	143	
144	200	Alcoa	204	203	204	203	204	203	204	144	200	Alcoa	204	203	204	203	204	203	204	144	
145	201	Alcoa	205	204	205	204	205	204	205	145	201	Alcoa	205	204	205	204	205	204	205	145	
146	202	Alcoa	206	205	206	205	206	205	206	146	202	Alcoa	206	205	206	205	206	205	206	146	
147	203	Alcoa	207	206	207	206	207	206	207	147	203	Alcoa	207	206	207	206	207	206	207	147	
148	204	Alcoa	208	207	208	207	208	207	208	148	204	Alcoa	208	207	208	207	208	207	208	148	
149	205	Alcoa	209	208	209	208	209	208	209	149	205	Alcoa	209	208	209	208	209	208	209	149	
150	206	Alcoa	210	209	210	209	210	209	210	150	206	Alcoa	210	209	210	209	210	209	210	150	
151	207	Alcoa	211	210	211	210	211	210			151	207	Alcoa	211	210	211	210				

## FINANCIAL RATIOS

Ratio	Value	Ratio	Value	Ratio	Value
Current Ratio	1.5	Debt to Equity	0.8	Return on Assets	12%
Debt to Capitalization	0.7	Debt to Total Assets	0.6	Return on Equity	18%
Debt to Total Assets	0.6	Debt to Total Liabilities	0.5	Return on Sales	15%
Debt to Total Liabilities	0.5	Debt to Total Equity	0.4	Return on Investment	20%
Debt to Total Equity	0.4	Debt to Total Income	0.3	Return on Capital	25%
Debt to Total Income	0.3	Debt to Total Profit	0.2	Return on Management	30%
Debt to Total Profit	0.2	Debt to Total Loss	0.1	Return on Operations	35%
Debt to Total Loss	0.1	Debt to Total Expense	0.05	Return on Production	40%
Debt to Total Expense	0.05	Debt to Total Cost	0.02	Return on Distribution	45%
Debt to Total Cost	0.02	Debt to Total Revenue	0.01	Return on Marketing	50%
Debt to Total Revenue	0.01	Debt to Total Sales	0.005	Return on Advertising	55%
Debt to Total Sales	0.005	Debt to Total Profit Margin	0.002	Return on Research & Development	60%
Debt to Total Profit Margin	0.002	Debt to Total Operating Income	0.001	Return on Intellectual Property	65%
Debt to Total Operating Income	0.001	Debt to Total Net Income	0.0005	Return on Goodwill	70%
Debt to Total Net Income	0.0005	Debt to Total Earnings	0.0002	Return on Assets (Adjusted)	13%
Debt to Total Earnings	0.0002	Debt to Total Cash Flow	0.0001	Return on Equity (Adjusted)	19%
Debt to Total Cash Flow	0.0001	Debt to Total Dividends	0.00005	Return on Sales (Adjusted)	16%
Debt to Total Dividends	0.00005	Debt to Total Share Repurchases	0.00002	Return on Investment (Adjusted)	21%
Debt to Total Share Repurchases	0.00002	Debt to Total Capital Expenditures	0.00001	Return on Capital (Adjusted)	26%
Debt to Total Capital Expenditures	0.00001	Debt to Total R&D Expenses	0.000005	Return on Management (Adjusted)	31%
Debt to Total R&D Expenses	0.000005	Debt to Total Marketing Expenses	0.000002	Return on Operations (Adjusted)	36%
Debt to Total Marketing Expenses	0.000002	Debt to Total Advertising Expenses	0.000001	Return on Production (Adjusted)	41%
Debt to Total Advertising Expenses	0.000001	Debt to Total Research & Development Expenses	0.0000005	Return on Distribution (Adjusted)	46%
Debt to Total Research & Development Expenses	0.0000005	Debt to Total Goodwill Impairment	0.0000002	Return on Marketing (Adjusted)	51%
Debt to Total Goodwill Impairment	0.0000002	Debt to Total Intangible Asset Impairment	0.0000001	Return on Advertising (Adjusted)	56%
Debt to Total Intangible Asset Impairment	0.0000001	Debt to Total Non-Operating Income	0.00000005	Return on Research & Development (Adjusted)	61%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Income	0.00000005	Debt to Total Non-Operating Loss	0.00000002	Return on Intellectual Property (Adjusted)	66%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Loss	0.00000002	Debt to Total Non-Operating Expense	0.00000001	Return on Goodwill (Adjusted)	71%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Expense	0.00000001	Debt to Total Non-Operating Revenue	0.000000005	Return on Assets (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	14%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Revenue	0.000000005	Debt to Total Non-Operating Sales	0.000000002	Return on Equity (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	20%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Sales	0.000000002	Debt to Total Non-Operating Profit Margin	0.000000001	Return on Sales (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	16%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Profit Margin	0.000000001	Debt to Total Non-Operating Operating Income	0.0000000005	Return on Investment (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	22%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Operating Income	0.0000000005	Debt to Total Non-Operating Net Income	0.0000000002	Return on Capital (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	27%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Net Income	0.0000000002	Debt to Total Non-Operating Earnings	0.0000000001	Return on Management (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	32%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Earnings	0.0000000001	Debt to Total Non-Operating Cash Flow	0.00000000005	Return on Operations (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	37%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Cash Flow	0.00000000005	Debt to Total Non-Operating Dividends	0.00000000002	Return on Production (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	42%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Dividends	0.00000000002	Debt to Total Non-Operating Share Repurchases	0.00000000001	Return on Distribution (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	47%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Share Repurchases	0.00000000001	Debt to Total Non-Operating Capital Expenditures	0.000000000005	Return on Marketing (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	52%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Capital Expenditures	0.000000000005	Debt to Total Non-Operating R&D Expenses	0.000000000002	Return on Advertising (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	57%
Debt to Total Non-Operating R&D Expenses	0.000000000002	Debt to Total Non-Operating Marketing Expenses	0.000000000001	Return on Research & Development (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	62%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Marketing Expenses	0.000000000001	Debt to Total Non-Operating Advertising Expenses	0.0000000000005	Return on Intellectual Property (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	67%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Advertising Expenses	0.0000000000005	Debt to Total Non-Operating Research & Development Expenses	0.0000000000002	Return on Goodwill (Adjusted, Excl. Intangibles)	72%
Debt to Total Non-Operating Research & Development Expenses	0.0000000000002	Debt to Total Non-Operating Goodwill Impairment	0.0000000000001		

## COMMODITIES

**COCOA**  
\$/tonne

J F M A M J J A S O N D

Cocoa has enjoyed a modest technical rally recently but the threat of renewed producer selling lies overhead and confrontation of the 1996/97 Ivory Coast crop at 500,000,000 tonnes (the third highest on record) has been recently received. Comment by GHL.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE		LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE	
Supplied via Commodity Market Services Ltd		G W Johnson and Co report	
<b>HEAVY FUEL OIL</b>		<b>SUGAR (From C. Czeizlikov)</b>	
Jan	82.0-86.0	FOB	1402-0
Feb	unq.-83.5	Mar	135.4-35.6
Mar	unq.-84.0	Apr	140.5-36.8
		May	144.4-44.8
		Oct	149.4-48.2
		Nov	154.4-49.0
		Dec	154.8-51.0
		Jan	154.8-51.0
Vol	112	Feb	2951
<b>GAS OIL</b>		<b>COCOA</b>	
Jan	134.25-34.00	Dec	1402-0
Feb	135.25-35.00	Mar	1436-25
Mar	136.25-36.00	Apr	1460-50
Jul	137.25-37.00	May	1467-55
Aug	137.25-38.00	Oct	1507-09
Sep	140.00-34.00	Nov	1556-34
Oct	140.00-35.00	Dec	1584-81
Nov	140.00-36.00	Jan	1599
Vol	4528	COFFEE	1802-900

Mar	1784-790
May	1795-794
Jul	1810-807
Sep	1820-830
Nov	1845-830
Vol	1850-830
	4278
<b>SOYABEAN</b>	
Feb	127.0-26.5
Apr	127.0-26.6
Jun	124.0-22.6
Aug	124.0-22.6
Oct	125.5-21.9
Dec	125.5-28.0
Vol	146

<b>LONDON METAL EXCHANGE</b>	
Official Timmer Prices	
Price in £ per metric tonne	
Steel in pension per low count	
Rendell Wolf & Co. Ltd report	
<b>COPPER GRADE A</b>	
Cash	935.50-935.50
Three Months	954.50-955.00
Vol	2500
Tone	Steady

<b>STANDARD CATHODES</b>	
Cash	905.00-908.00
Three Months	930.00-938.00
Vol	1000
Tone	Quiet
<b>LEAD</b>	
Cash	358.00-360.00
Three Months	351.00-352.00
Vol	500
Tone	Steady

<b>ZINC HIGH GRADE</b>	
Cash	500.00-501.00
Three Months	555.50-556.00
Vol	2500
Tone	Steady

<b>SILVER LARGE</b>	
Cash	374.00-378.00
Three Months	394.00-398.00
Vol	100

<b>ALUMINIUM</b>	
Cash	788.50-788.50
Three Months	804.00-804.00
Vol	500
Tone	Steady
<b>NICKEL</b>	
Cash	2470-2480
Three Months	2531-2532
Vol	120
Tone	Barely Steady

<b>MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION</b>	
Average futures prices at representative markets on December 19	
GS: Cattle	91.54p per kg lw (-5.02)
GS: Sheep	224.17p per kg lw (+3.55)
GS: Pigs	80.35p per kg lw (+4.00)
Sst. dead carcass weight	

<b>England and Wales:</b>	
Cattle nos. down 4.7% a/w.	price, 81.56p (+3.74)
Sheep nos. down 25.1% a/w.	price, 225.60p (+4.26)
Pig nos. up 86.5% a/w.	price, 80.35p (+4.30)

<b>Southeast:</b>	
Cattle nos. down 31.9% a/w.	price, 88.86p (-5.79)
Sheep nos. up 6.7% a/w.	price, 218.80p (+3.78)
Pig nos. up 8% a/w.	price, 81.54p

<b>LONDON MEAT FUTURES</b>	
Live Pig Contract p. per lb	
Month	Open
Jun	85.00 94.30

Apr	95.00	95.00
Jun	98.00	98.00
		Vol 9
<b>Pig Meat vol: 5</b>		
<b>Live Cattle Contract p. per lb</b>		
Month	Open	Close
Jun	96.00	97.00
Jul	101.50	100.50
Aug	unq.	99.50
Vol		Vol 9

<b>LONDON GRAIN FUTURES</b>			
£ per bushel			
Month	Wheat	Barley	Close
Jun	110.18	110.75	
Jul	112.56	113.55	
May	111.40	114.75	
Jul	117.65	unq.	
Aug	101.10	100.00	
Nov	103.05	103.05	
Vol	Wheat	170	
	Barley	139	

<b>LONDON POTATO FUTURES</b>			
£ per tonne			
Month	Open	Close	
Feb	109.00	108.30	
Mar	112.56	113.55	
May	171.00	171.50	
Nov	87.50	86.50	
Vol		Vol 790	

<b>DIFFUSE</b>			
G.N.L. Freight Futures Ltd Dry Cargo Report (\$10 per point)			
	High/Low	Close	
Jan 87	890.0-980.0	980.0	
Apr 87	715.0-710.0	718.0	
Jul 87		655.0	
Oct 87		730.0	
Vol	38 lots	Open bids	768
Spot market commentary:			
Dry cargo index:			
88.00 (down 0.20)			



هكذا من الأصل

### Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total prize money. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Low (Wm)	Food	
2	Swire Pacific A	Industrial S-Z	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Davies & Newman	Industrial A-D	
5	Geestcar	Industrial E-K	
6	Ellis & Everard	Chemicals/Plas	
7	Elam	Drapers/Stores	
8	Manders	Building/Roads	
9	Ladbroke	Hotels/Caterers	
10	Woodside	Oil	
11	Card (A) & Sons	Property	
12	EMAP A	Newspaper/Pubs	
13	Gunning (W)	Chemicals/Plas	
14	Lon Park Hotels	Hotels/Caterers	
15	BSS Group	Industrial A-D	
16	Hickson	Chemicals/Plas	
17	Nu-Soft Inds	Industrial E-K	
18	BPC	Paper/Pulp/Adv	
19	Cohen (A)	Industrial A-D	
20	Oxford Instruments	Electronics	
21	Cater Allen	Banks/Discount	
22	Smithkline (R)	Pharmaceuticals	
23	Portsmouth Sund	Newspaper/Pubs	
24	Amersham	Chemicals/Plas	
25	Bagbridge Brn	Building/Roads	
26	VSEL	Industrial S-Z	
27	Sovels	Industrial S-Z	
28	Wolsey	Industrial S-Z	
29	Wade Paterns	Industrial S-Z	
30	Chrysalis	Leisure	
31	Harker Sndley	Industrial E-K	
32	Britannic	Insurance	
33	Banks (Sidney C)	Food	
34	Microgen	Electronics	
35	TNT	Industrial S-Z	
36	Zetters	Leisure	
37	Sun Alliance	Insurance	
38	Down	Motors/Aircraft	
39	Kwik Save	Food	
40	Hay (Norman)	Industrial E-K	
41	Jardine Math	Industrial E-K	
42	Wigfals	Drapers/Stores	
43	Coats Virella	Drapers/Stores	
44	Perry GP	Motors/Aircraft	

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend					
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £24,000 in today's newspaper.					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

### BRITISH FUNDS

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

### SHORTS (Under Five Years)

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

### FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

### OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

### UNDATED

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

### INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

### BANKS DISCOUNT HP

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Quiet end to account

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)  
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 8. Dealings ended yesterday. \$Contango day Monday. Settlement day January 5.  
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

BREWERIES							

BUILDINGS AND ROADS							

FINANCE AND LAND							

FOODS							

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS							

CINEMAS AND TV							

HOTELS AND CATERERS							

INDUSTRIALS A-D							

ELECTRICALS							

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

E-K							

L-R							

S-Z							

OIL							

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS							

MOTORING AND AIRCRAFT							

SHOES AND LEATHER							

TEXTILES							

TOBACCO							

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

OVERSEAS TRADERS							

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG							

PROPERTY							

SHIPPING							

MOTORING AND AIRCRAFT							

SHOES AND LEATHER							

TEXTILES							

TOBACCO							

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

OVERSEAS TRADERS							

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG							

PROPERTY							

SHIPPING							

MOTORING AND AIRCRAFT							

SHOES AND LEATHER							

TEXTILES							

TOBACCO							

### Portfolio Gold

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000  
WEEKLY DIVIDEND £24,000  
Claims required for +35 points  
Claims required for +204 points  
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield

OVERSEAS TRADERS							

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG							

PROPERTY							

SHIPPING							

MOTORING AND AIRCRAFT							

SHOES AND LEATHER							

TEXTILES							

TOBACCO							

© Ex dividend £ Ex at b Forecast dividend £ Interim payment passed £ Price at suspension £ Dividend and yield exclude a special payment £ Pre-merger figures £ Forecast earnings £ Ex other £ Ex rights £ Ex scrip or share split £ Tax-free £ No significant data.



## FAMILY MONEY/1

**1951**



FAMILY MONEY/2

# Champagne Christmas quiz

1. Consumer protection is currently a major talking point in the financial services industry. Who is the chairman of the Securities and Investments Board?

(a) Sir Kenneth Berrill  
(b) Michael Howard  
(c) Sir Nicholas Goodison  
(d) Mark Weinberg

2. Registered plan managers will be free to offer Personal Equity Plans (PEPs) from January 1. What is the maximum annual amount that an individual can invest in a PEP?

(a) £2,400  
(b) £4,800  
(c) £6,300  
(d) No limit

3. The forerunner of the Business Expansion Scheme was known by a different name. What was it?

(a) Investment Income Surcharge  
(b) Business Start-up Scheme  
(c) Industrial Building Allowance  
(d) Life Assurance Premium Relief

4. British Gas shares were initially offered to the public at a price of 135p, partly paid. But when the Pathfinder Prospectus was published a maximum price had been quoted. What was it?

(a) 50p  
(b) 125p  
(c) 130p  
(d) 150p

5. In 1986 the Department for National Savings celebrated a milestone in its history. In which year was National Savings founded?

(a) 1861  
(b) 1886  
(c) 1914  
(d) 1969

6. Who is the chairman of the world-famous insurance market, Lloyd's of London?

(a) Sir Jeremy Morse  
(b) Peter Cameron-Webb  
(c) Peter Miller  
(d) Sir Peter Green

7. At 29 per cent, the standard rate of income tax is now below the 30 per cent rate of capital gains for the first time. But when was capital gains tax introduced?

(a) 1939  
(b) 1965  
(c) 1974  
(d) 1982

This week you have your second and final chance to take part in the Family Money CHAMPAGNE CHRISTMAS quiz, an opportunity to discover how much you really know about unit trusts, insurance, pensions, building societies and other subjects that generally come under the heading of personal finance such as the Business Expansion Scheme, tax and National Savings. And how quick are you to spot the names of key personalities in the personal finance world?

The CHAMPAGNE CHRISTMAS quiz consisting of 20 questions is designed to test your knowledge in a serious manner - though not too serious, of course.

The first all-correct entry form drawn from a hat will win a magnum of magnificent Krug Grande Cuvée champagne.

8. Unit trust funds under management have increased substantially in recent years. At the end of October what did the funds under management amount to?

(a) £29.9 million  
(b) £90.3 million  
(c) £8.7 billion  
(d) £29.9 billion

9. In June 1985 the Government announced it was phasing out a central part of the pensions structure. It subsequently agreed to keep it in a modified form. Which of the following was going to be phased out?

(a) The State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme  
(b) Additional Voluntary Contributions  
(c) The Occupational Pensions Board  
(d) Buy-out bonds

10. Which of the clearing banks has launched a touch-screen, instant dealing service for British Gas shares?

(a) Barclays  
(b) Lloyds  
(c) Midland  
(d) National Westminster

11. 1986 has been the year of the acronym. One of the following is not a proposed self-regulatory organization. Which is it?

(a) LAUTRO  
(b) BIBA  
(c) FIMBRA  
(d) AFBID

12. Of which UK investment trust was the disgraced American arbitrageur Ivan Boesky until recently chairman?

(a) GT Japan  
(b) Cambrian & General  
(c) Yeoman  
(d) Ailsa

13. Which pop star recently became chairman of a financial advice company?

(a) Cliff Richard  
(b) Gary Glitter  
(c) Adam Faith  
(d) Helen Shapiro

14. The Insurance Ombudsman Bureau has had only one ombudsman since its formation in 1981. Who is he?

(a) James Haswell  
(b) Ernest Saunders  
(c) Sir Kenneth Newman  
(d) Ian Edwards-Jones

15. In which year did gold hit its peak price in US dollar terms?

(a) 1986  
(b) 1974  
(c) 1980  
(d) 1981

16. 1986 was the year of Big Bang, but Big Bang had its origins in a pact between the chairman of the Stock Exchange and a government minister back in 1983. Who was the government minister?

(a) Sir Geoffrey Howe  
(b) Cecil Parkinson  
(c) Leon Brittan  
(d) Sir Keith Joseph

17. The maximum mortgage loan on which tax relief could be claimed on the interest element was raised to £30,000. In which year did this become effective?

(a) 1968  
(b) 1974  
(c) 1983  
(d) 1985

18. The self-employed and others in non-pensionable employment who were born in 1934 and after can pay up to a certain percentage of their earnings into a retirement annuity contract. What is this percentage?

(a) 10.45 per cent  
(b) 17.5 per cent  
(c) 25.6 per cent  
(d) 30 per cent

19. Which continental European market recorded the biggest percentage stock market index rise in the first 11 months of 1986 to the end of November?

(a) Spain  
(b) Italy  
(c) France  
(d) Germany

20. On which date did the Dow Jones Industrial Average touch its low point for 1986 in the period January 1 to November 30?

(a) January 22  
(b) April 9  
(c) September 18  
(d) October 27

The next five all-correct entries will each win a bottle of Krug Grande Cuvée champagne, and the next 10 all-correct entries will each receive a £15 book token.

## HOW TO ENTER:

Against each of the 20 questions shown below we have provided four possible answers - a, b, c or d. Only one of the answers is correct. All you have to do is select the correct answer and write a, b, c or d in the boxes numbered 1 to 20 at the bottom of the entry form.

Then send your completed entry to The Editor, Family Money, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to arrive at this address not later than Wednesday, December 31, 1986.

The names of the quiz winners will be published in Family Money on Saturday, January 10, 1987.



## RULES

1. Employees of The Times, News International, London Post (Printers) Ltd and their families are not eligible to enter.
2. Entries will be limited to one per person and must be made on an official entry form. Photocopies are not acceptable.
3. Entries must be received at the office of The Times by Wednesday, December 31, 1986.
4. Proof of posting will not be accepted as evidence of receipt.
5. The Editor's decision in all matters is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

## ENTRY FORM

Name.....  
Address.....  
Telephone.....  
My choices are:  
1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐  
8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐  
15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐

Send your completed entry form to: The Editor, Family Money, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to arrive not later than Wednesday, December 31, 1986.  
Please mark your envelope CHRISTMAS QUIZ

## BASE LENDING RATES

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G. Hoare & Co.....	11.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai.....	11.00%
Lloyds Bank.....	11.00%
Nat Westminster.....	11.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland.....	11.00%
TSB.....	11.00%
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† Mortgage Base Rate.

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SHAWNEE



**From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Hobart**

**The way to stardom: Don Wilson coaches a young batsman, Gerard Wilson.**  
(Photograph: Hugh Routledge).

**By Ivo Tennant**

**By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent**

## ATHLETICS

## SKIING

## RACKETS

**By William Stephens**

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**From John Ballantine, Montego Bay**

BOX

**Bandolei (Giovanni) — Gilbarto** — contest his way. **Thurston**

**FOR THE RECORD**

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### ROBERT ORION

**LIAM YOUNGER FLOODLIT CUP: Final**

Sue McCarthy (Avon) will take

studies to defend their Prudential British junior indoor titles —

they are the under-18 top seeds — at Queen's Club, starting on December 29.











